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VALERIE GROVE

'Barney' Bernie has changed his style

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'I never expected it would be like this'

England's manager speaks out, page 36

MOTORING INTO THE FUTURE

Page 17

THE TIMES

No. 64,721

FRIDAY AUGUST 13 1993

45p

RAF's Bosnia airlift delayed until Sunday

By Bill Frost and Philip Webster

WOUNDED and traumatised children were still waiting in Sarajevo last night after the United Nations admitted that the RAF will not be able to carry out its planned airlift until at least Sunday. The UN denied that red tape had prolonged the children's ordeal.

Hospitals around Britain were geared up to treat the victims as a medical team prepared to board an air ambulance for Ancona, in northern Italy, on the first leg of their mission to the Bosnian capital. Hopes had been high that the children would be brought to safety today.

John Major's optimism about the timing of their removal from Bosnia-Herzegovina was clearly premature yesterday. Peter Kessler, spokesman for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in Sarajevo, said: "Right now our medical team is sweeping

The injured children will not be flown out of Sarajevo until Sunday. The UN says that to rush the mission could jeopardise its chance of success

across the city. It's a mammoth job because only four of the individuals on our list have working telephones."

Nanda Na Shampassak, of the UN in London, said: "We hope to get the first evacuation under way by Sunday, or it just might be later, possibly next Monday". She said the list of those to be flown out, which will include the wounded children and up to 60 relatives, had still to be finalised, but denied that UN red tape was jeopardising the mission.

"We are under terrific pressure to get this operation right. We have to ensure it is properly done. We have to make certain that the children and members of their families who will travel with them get exit papers from the Bosnian authorities," she said. "We

must negotiate with every roadblock commander - Serb and Bosnian - on "Snipers Alley" [the airport road] to ensure the ambulances have safe passage. These things take so much time."

A Russian air ambulance, chartered by the Overseas Development Administration, is standing by today to carry the 25-strong British medical team from Stansted to Ancona. They will be led by Tony Redmond, a trauma surgeon who has experience of working in Sarajevo. Earlier a team of RAF evacuation specialists left for the Italian base. Once they are authorised to proceed, an advance party will be sent to Sarajevo to assess the condition and needs of the children.

The RAF team will carry out the evacuation from the Bosnian capital. The Hercules transport plane is likely to take all the children and their relatives to Ancona, from where 20 of the injured will be flown to Britain, 16 to Sweden and five to Ireland.

John Major, on the second day of his visit to Sweden yesterday, said: "Progress is being made. The delay, if delay is beyond 48 hours and it may be a little, will be in gathering the families together in Sarajevo in order they can come out with the injured."

Health department officials have not been able to allocate beds for the children as they have no details of those being sent. There are places, however, at The Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital in Brighton, The Royal Hospital for Sick Children in Bristol, Glasgow's Royal Hospital for Sick Children and the Alder Hey Children's Hospital in Liverpool. Hospital beds have also been offered in Edinburgh, Oxford, Manchester, Birmingham, Nottingham and Stoke.

The physician who highlighted the case of Irina Hadzimiracovic - the critically injured child who has undergone surgery at London's Great Ormond Street Hospital - yesterday questioned the motives behind the mission. Dr Edo Jaganjac said: "If there's not a change in the system... then this is just very expensive propaganda which will save 40 lives and leave another 400,000 people in Sarajevo in the same predicament as before."

Team assemblies, page 3
Deadline ignored, page 7
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Serbs remain on two mountains

FROM TIM JUDAH ON MOUNT IGMAN

BARELY 24 hours after hundreds and possibly thousands of Bosnian Serb troops withdrew from the two mountains overlooking Sarajevo, confusion reigned about how many were left.

The pullback was not enough to ease the threat of Nato air strikes, or to satisfy the peace negotiators in Geneva. Lord Owen and Thorvald Stoltenberg, who gave the Serbs until mid-morning yesterday to leave Mount Igman, summoned Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, to a meeting last night.

A Serb spokesman in Geneva said there were no Serb troops on the mountain. A UN spokesman in Sarajevo said thousands could still be on Igman and Mount Bjelasnica.

Bosnian Serbs have agreed to hand over the recently-captured mountains to UN control. However, the Bosnian Serb military have said that they planned to leave a contingent of some 800 until a UN unit of 150 "blue berets" was fully deployed.

A visit to Mount Igman yesterday showed that Serb forces were still in control, but their numbers were impossible to determine.

Suspicion that the Serbs had something to hide was raised when journalists, apart from a team from the Serbs' ally, Greece, were expelled from the area.

Paraded beneath the 1984 Olympic ski runs, several Serb mobile anti-aircraft guns stood silently while small knots of soldiers ambled about in the sun.

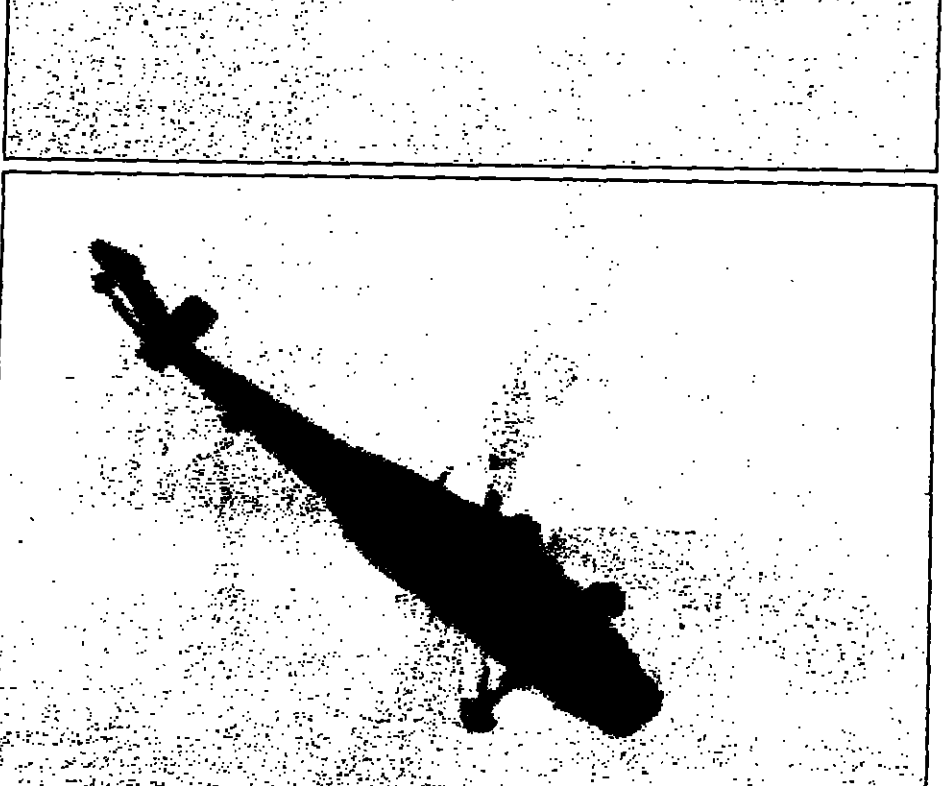
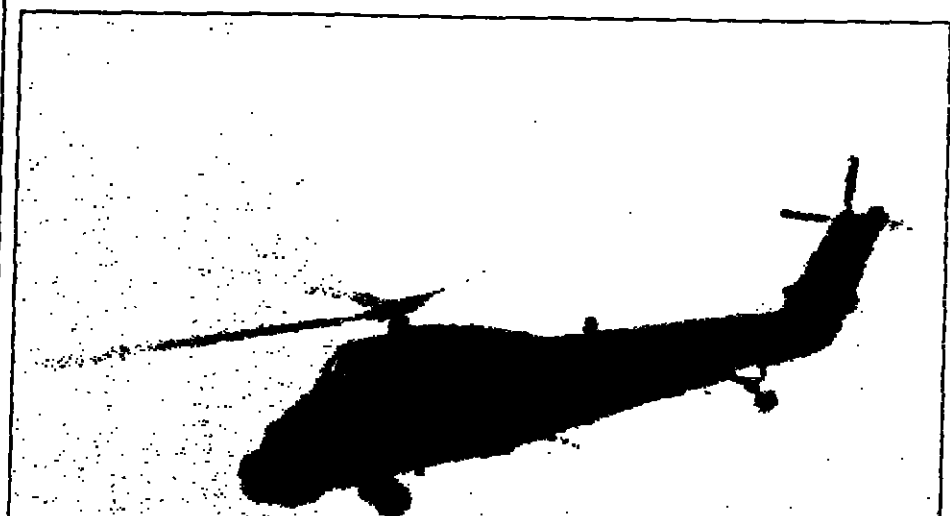
In Sarajevo, Barry Frewer, the UN spokesman, was asked how many Serb soldiers were left on the mountains. "We are probably talking in thousands," he said, "but there are artillery pieces there, there are tanks, there are trucks and there are mortars."

Rasim Delic, commander of the predominantly Muslim Bosnian army, said: "Some Serb movements do not mean withdrawals but redeployment instead."

General Jean Cot, commander of UN troops for the whole of the former Yugoslavia, said that the Serbs were withdrawing logistics units from Igman and would follow with combat units later in the day.

General Cot also called for an American military field hospital to be moved from the Croatian capital, Zagreb, to Sarajevo.

Teenage girl and crew escape lake crash



Descent to disaster: the Wessex tail rotor stops, it goes out of control and into the lake

Air cadets lost in helicopter plunge

By MICHAEL EVANS

THREE schoolchildren on an air cadet summer camp were feared drowned last night after an RAF Wessex helicopter in which they were flying for "air experience" plunged into a lake in north Wales. A fourth cadet, a girl aged 16, survived along with the three-man crew.

Witnesses said the tail rotor of the Wessex which had set off from RAF Valley on Anglesey, suddenly stopped, sending the helicopter spinning towards the lake at Llyn Padarn, at the Snowdonian holiday town of Llanberis.

The three victims, two boys and a girl, believed to be aged about 16, who had been equipped with life jackets and briefed on the steps to be taken in a crash failed to escape from the helicopter as it sank "within seconds" beneath the water at the centre of the lake.

The three crew members and the one girl cadet managed to free themselves from the wreckage and reach the shore. They suffered back injuries and were taken to a hospital in Bangor, where they were expected to make a full recovery.

The drama was watched by scores of people, many of them children, on the lakeside which is a popular beauty spot. Some set off in canoes to try to save the seven on board the helicopter.

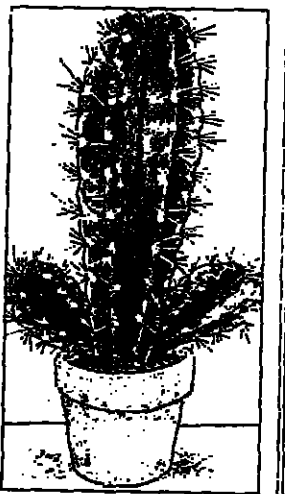
One said: "I was videoing the helicopter because I thought they were on a routine training exercise. Then it seemed to go into a spiral and crashed into the lake."

Aled Taylor, Snowdonia National Park warden who saw the crash, said: "The tail rotor of the helicopter stopped and the machine went out of control. We had radio contact with another helicopter which was scrambled and because was scrambled and because

Continued on page 2 col 6

TOMORROW

Summer pleasures



The love life of Adrian Mole

IN Sue Townsend's new Adrian Mole book, *The Wilderness Years*, the misadventures of the still spurned by the beautiful Pandora and is now working at the Department of the Environment with special responsibility for newts. A two-week serialisation of perhaps the funniest book of 1993 starts in Weekend

Luxury breaks

ALL this week The Times has been offering discounts of up to 40 per cent at 72 world-renowned Ritz & Chateaux hotels in France - and nearly 5,000 readers have responded to the special offer. The final coupon appears in Weekend tomorrow

Bargain travel

THE TIMES is also offering Motoring Returns on Hoverspeed cross-Channel travel at a saving of up to 50 per cent. Don't miss tomorrow's Weekend section

Mentally ill 'still pose risk'

By RICHARD FORD
HOME CORRESPONDENT

THE public is still at risk of attacks by mentally ill people released for care in the community, despite government moves announced yesterday to tighten control and supervision of patients, the British Medical Association said.

Dr Alistair Riddell, chairman of the BMA's community care committee, said: "If we are to be sure that the tragic incidents of recent months are not to be repeated, the government will have to do more than just tighten up existing arrangements."

Jayne Zito, whose husband Jonathan was stabbed through the eye and brain by Christopher Chmis, 19, a paranoid schizophrenic, also criticised the proposals, saying the proposals were "just a government PR exercise". She said: "The community should not be smoke-screened into feeling safe by the changes."

Dr Riddell said: "The BMA is also concerned that all patients who need care on release from an institution are able to obtain it."

Rate cut pressure as jobless rise

By PHILIP BASSETT
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

TWO economic blows hit the government unexpectedly yesterday, casting doubt on the strength of the recovery. The decline in unemployment halted and industrial output fell.

The figures caused the pound to fall back as City dealers saw the worse economic news as likely to increase pressure on Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, for an interest rate cut. The interest rate speculation pushed the stock market to new heights, though the FT-SE Index fell from 3,022.4 in the morning to close at 3,009.1.

Ministers tried to interpret the unwelcome economic statistics as positively as possible, insisting that there was nothing in the jobless or factory output figures to deflect the trend towards recovery.

Seasonally-adjusted unemployment rose by 200 in July to 2,912,200 - the first increase since January, after five months of falling figures and long-term unemployment rose. But average earnings increases continued to fall.

Factory output plunged in June, more than wiping out a sharp increase the previous month. Production dropped by 2.1 per cent, compared with a rise of 1.5 per cent in May.



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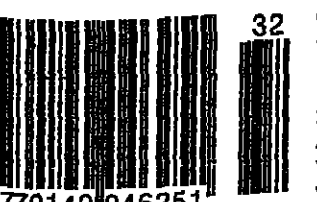
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NEWS IN BRIEF

Labour MP charged with police assault

George Foulkes, the Labour front-bench MP, was bailed to appear before Bow Street magistrates in London next month, charged with assaulting a police constable and with being drunk and disorderly.

Mr Foulkes, 51, MP for Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley and a spokesman on defence, was involved in an incident in Abingdon Street, outside the Houses of Parliament, on July 19 after a reception given by the Scotch Whisky Association. He missed his question-time appearance in the Commons the next day and was seen with an injury to his face.

Scotland Yard said that Mr Foulkes, who is a justice of the peace and has been an MP since 1979, was given police bail to appear before magistrates on September 9.

House sales improve

House sales fell slightly in July in line with seasonal trends as the housing market was interrupted by summer holidays, but they were still higher than in July last year, when the market boomed because of the number of sales rushed through before the abolition of the stamp duty holiday in August. Figures published yesterday by the Corporate Estate Agents Property Index show that 32,538 houses were sold in July, compared to 36,417 in June. The total was an increase of 3.4 per cent on July last year.

Jail chief suspended

A senior member of the Northern Ireland prison service has been suspended on full pay while police investigate "financial irregularities" at Crumlin Road jail in Belfast. The RUC was called in when auditors were asked to look at the prison's annual £18 million budget after a new governor took over. Thousands of pounds are believed to be involved.

Marrow boy improves

Rhys Daniels, the two-year-old from Epping, Essex, given a bone marrow transplant last month for a rare genetic disease, is to be allowed out of his special isolation unit at the Royal Hospital for Sick Children in Bristol today for the first time. "This is a good sign that the treatment is working," Barry Daniels, his father, said.

Clay Jones retires

Clay Jones, 69, chairman of BBC Radio 4's *Gardeners' Question Time*, is to retire after 17 years on the programme. He will be succeeded by Stefan Buczacki, a long-standing panellist. Mr Jones, right, is recovering after having a mild heart attack at his home in Chepstow, Gwent, five weeks ago. "I have told the BBC that I wish to retire now, quietly, with the dignity the programme engenders in the minds and hearts of its faithful audience," he said yesterday. The BBC declined to comment on reports that Mr Jones was unhappy with plans to invite independent companies to tender for the programme.



Time change 'stupid'

The Greenwich Observatory began a campaign yesterday to prevent a move from Greenwich Mean Time to Central European Time, which the government is considering for 1996. Kristen Lippincott, curator of astronomy at the observatory, said the plan was "plain stupid" and would jeopardise a system the world had relied on for 100 years.

Archers hit by lightning

Some listeners to Radio 4's *The Archers* were denied their regular dose of Ambridge yesterday when a BBC transmitter in Droitwich, Worcestershire, was struck by lightning at 1.10pm, putting it out of commission for 50 minutes. Listeners in parts of the Midlands were unable to receive the programme.

Bottomley to stop danger cases 'slipping through the net'



Community concern: a Nottingham care manager discussing housing with a patient on the day Virginia Bottomley announces tighter controls

Mentally ill face tighter controls to protect public

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

CLOSER supervision of severely mentally ill people living in the community was announced yesterday in a move aimed at protecting the public.

Patients considered a danger to themselves or to others will be discharged from psychiatric hospitals only on certain conditions, including the requirement that they live in a specified place, attend centres for medical care and agree an overall treatment plan.

A "minder", in most cases a community psychiatric nurse, will be named and be in charge of the treatment. They will have access to the patient and the power to take him or her to a centre for treatment.

Under the new supervised discharge, patients could be returned to hospital if they refuse to co-operate with the

plan or their health deteriorates.

Ministers are also strengthening existing arrangements under which patients given extended leave from hospital are liable to recall. The period in which they can be brought back to hospital will increase from six to twelve months.

Legislation for the new power of supervised discharge, to be applied to an estimated 3,000 patients, was part of a two-point plan unveiled yesterday by the government. It follows public anxiety over a series of violent attacks, including killings, by former psychiatric patients released from hospital under the care in the community programme. The measure is expected to become law in 1995.

Virginia Bottomley, the health secretary, said the measures were designed to prevent people "slipping through the net", as had occurred in a number of tragic cases in which a patient's condition had deteriorated.

"It is unacceptable that cases where patients slip through the net and cause great danger to either them-

selves or to other people should go unchecked."

Mental health groups criticised the government's failure to provide additional funding. Judi Clements of Mind said that the supervised order gave the care programme additional teeth and that this would help address public concern. But more money was needed to provide employment and homes for former patients.

A spokesman for the National Schizophrenia Fellowship said that an extra £500 million would be needed to provide improvements, including 1,700 more community psychiatric nurses to act as the minders.

Other parts of the package include fresh guidance to ensure patients are not discharged inappropriately; better training for key workers involved in helping and befriending former psychiatric patients; and a register of patients most at risk and in need of close monitoring.

Patients who disagree with their conditions of discharge will be able to appeal against the decision at a mental health tribunal. Appeals are expected to cost an extra £1 million.

Nottingham leads the way forward

BY OUR HOME CORRESPONDENT

NOTTINGHAM is playing a leading role in the development and provision of the type of community care for the mentally ill that has been championed by successive governments during the past 30 years.

The advent in the fifties of new drug treatments to control disruptive behaviour and allow the mentally ill to live normal, or near-normal, lives was followed in 1960 by Enoch Powell's vision of asylum wards being closed and more civilised ways being found instead to care for the mentally ill. "For the great majority of these establishments, there is no appropriate future use," he said.

By the end of this year, Nottingham, a city with a population of 600,000, will have closed its old asylums and psychiatric hospitals. It will be the first city of its size in the country to be without a long stay psychiatric hospital.

Instead, general hospitals will have acute beds for psychiatric patients whose stay in hospital averages about three weeks, and the long stay psychiatric patients will be housed in the community either in residential units or day centres. The health department wants to see this kind of practice operating throughout the country.

Thirty care managers or "minders", each responsible for between 20 and 30 people with severe long term mental illness, plan and coordinate the support, facilities and health needs of an individual. The aim is to ensure that a former patient does not become tangled in dealings with employers, housing, health and benefits agencies.

Dr John Howat, clinical director of Nottingham's rehabilitation and community care service, said: "One person dealing with a patient allows a relationship to be established, and the care manager acts as an advocate, arguing on the patient's behalf and dealing with all the agencies. It sounds a bit paternalistic, but it means that the person has someone keeping an eye on them, stopping them going off the rails. The person also has someone to turn to in a crisis."

Before a patient is discharged from a hospital, the care manager will have assessed their needs and found suitable housing, with or without domestic support. Once the person is settled in the community, the minder visits regularly at daily, weekly or monthly intervals.

"The care manager is in charge of guiding a person who needs help from many different agencies," Dr Howat said. "The manager co-ordinates everything, usually over a long period of time."

Mr McMaster, who went to see the damaged theatre as soon as he heard about the fire, spent the day at the Playhouse negotiating the possible use of the building for the duration of the festival. Last night that had still not been entirely ruled out and a festival spokeswoman said until it was certain the Playhouse could not be used, alternative venues would not be sought.

"We are talking to the festival office to rearrange things and find an alternative venue. At the moment it would appear that there will be no festival productions at the Playhouse," she said yesterday morning.

Mr McMaster, who went to see the damaged theatre as soon as he heard about the fire, spent the day at the Playhouse negotiating the possible use of the building for the duration of the festival. Last night that had still not been entirely ruled out and a festival spokeswoman said until it was certain the Playhouse could not be used, alternative venues would not be sought.

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Fire puts festival's top shows in doubt

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH
SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

THE director of the Edinburgh International Festival was battling last night to save three core productions after a fire damaged the Edinburgh Playhouse, where they were due to be staged.

Talks continued all day yesterday between Brian McMaster, the festival's director, and the management of the Playhouse, Europe's largest theatre. Three pieces, central to the festival's programme, are due to be staged at the theatre in the next few weeks. They are productions by the Mark Morris Dance Company, the Canadian Opera Company and Welsh National Opera.

Last night a spokeswoman for the festival, which starts on Sunday, said the Mark Morris Dance Company would fly over from the US as planned. "We took the decision to fly them over anyway," she said. They are due to arrive in Britain today and their first performance at the Playhouse is scheduled for Tuesday.

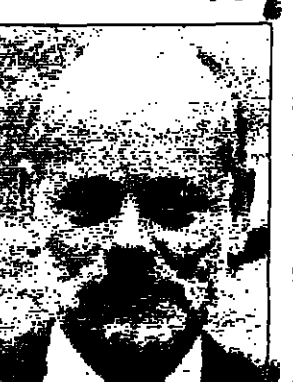
Over 12,000 tickets for the three productions — takings of about £250,000 — have already been sold. If performances are cancelled money will have to be refunded. The fire broke out in the early hours of Wednesday and arson is suspected. The theatre had just had a £2.2 million facelift and a gala opening starring the singer Michael Ball was planned for tomorrow night. That will not now go ahead.

Sarah Bullough, marketing manager for the Playhouse, said the scenery dock at the rear of the theatre was completely destroyed by the fire. The stage and auditorium have not been destroyed but they are believed to have been damaged by smoke.

"We are talking to the festival office to rearrange things and find an alternative venue. At the moment it would appear that there will be no festival productions at the Playhouse," she said yesterday morning.

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Best view, page 2



McMaster: trying to save core productions

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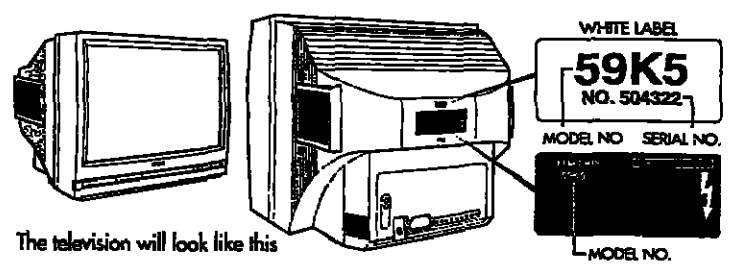
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Merton tops table of Oxford results

THE NORRINGTON TABLE 1993

Position	College	Pts	Possible maximum	%
1 (1)	Merton	263	380	69.2
2 (2)	St John's	258	375	68.8
3 (3)	Bailliol	257	375	68.5
4 (4)	University	252	375	67.2
5 (5)	Queens	251	415	60.5
6 (6)	Magdalen	250	375	66.7
7 (7)	Hertford	248	375	66.1
8 (8)	Balliol	247	405	60.8
9 (9)	Jesus	246	405	60.7
10 (10)	Worcester	245	410	59.8
11 (11)	Corpus Christi	242	365	66.3
12 (12)	Lincoln	240	365	65.7
13 (13)	Exeter	239	405	59.3
14 (14)	Christ Church	238	375	63.5
15 (15)	Wadham	237	375	63.2
16 (16)	New	236	375	62.9
17 (17)	Keele	235	375	62.7
18 (18)	St Anne's	234	375	62.4
19 (19)	Brasenose	233	375	62.1
20 (20)	Pembroke	232	375	61.9
21 (21)	St Peter's	231	375	61.6
22 (22)	St Hugh's	230	375	61.3
23 (23)	Lady M Hall	229	375	61.1
24 (24)	St Catherine's	228	375	60.8
25 (25)	St Edmund Hall	227	375	60.5
26 (26)	Trinity	226	375	60.3
27 (27)	St Hilary	225	375	60.0
28 (28)	Somerville	224	375	59.7

* 1992 Figures in brackets

BY BEN PRESTON
EDUCATION REPORTER

MERTON College has topped the controversial Norrington table of Oxford finals results for a record eighth time.

Worcester and Oriel recorded the biggest improvements, rising 13 and 11 places respectively. The remaining women's colleges, St Hilda's and Somerville, prop up the 28 colleges.

The table was suggested in a letter to *The Times* in 1963 by

Sir Arthur Norrington, a former president of Trinity College. Although it is said to have been conceived as a joke, the table's influence has grown.

The table is based on awarding five points for a first, three for an upper second, two for a lower second and one for a third. Results are tabled as percentage of the maximum points that each college might have scored.

An Oxford spokeswoman said that the table did not reflect the quality of teaching.

Cadets lost in crash

Continued from page 1
there were so many people at the lakeside it was possible to direct the machine to a pretty precise location where the Wessex went down.

David Hughes, 50, a bus driver, said: "The noise of the helicopter suddenly changed and I knew there was something wrong. I rushed outside and saw someone hanging out of the door of the aircraft."

The air cadets came from the East Lancashire wing of the Air Training Corps based at Horwich in Greater Manchester and were on a week's summer camp at RAF Valley.

Squadron Leader Timothy Foley, the wing's group administrator, was in tears as he answered enquiries last night. He said: "I had the job of telling the families. It was a terrible thing."

First indications pointed to a failure in the transmission or in the shaft to the tail rotor. The immediate effect on the helicopter was to make it spin. A board of enquiry was set up last night to investigate the accident.

CORRECTION

Contrary to our report in yesterday's Country Pursuits page, the Game Conservancy does not advise or assist in booking shooting days.

Infatuated goes to jail

ARMED and dangerous, a man who was infatuated with a woman he had never met, was sentenced to 18 months in prison for a series of threats and attempts to kidnap her. The man, who was 30, was found guilty of a series of threats and attempts to kidnap her. The man, who was 30, was found guilty of a series of threats and attempts to kidnap her. The man, who was 30, was found guilty of a series of threats and attempts to kidnap her.

Police foil

A police officer who was foiled in a series of attempts to kidnap a woman, was sentenced to 18 months in prison. The officer, who was 30, was found guilty of a series of threats and attempts to kidnap her. The officer, who was 30, was found guilty of a series of threats and attempts to kidnap her. The officer, who was 30, was found guilty of a series of threats and attempts to kidnap her.

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IAN BOWDITCH
(CORRESPONDENT)

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Accident and emergency specialists stand by to fly out to save victims of Yugoslavia's war

British medical aid team ready for anything in Bosnia

By BILL FROST

TONY Redmond, the surgeon who leads the British medical team on the rescue mission to aid Sarajevo's sick children, is no stranger to the horrors of war in Bosnia and the difficulties involved in getting medical aid to trouble spots.

When the Overseas Development Administration was asked to find the right man for the job, their first choice was the accident and emergency specialist working at the North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary, Stoke-on-Trent.

Mr Redmond, 41, led members of the South Manchester Accident and Rescue Team to Bosnia last year. He worked in Sarajevo and gained an enviable reputation for his skill and bravery under difficult and dangerous conditions.

He has since changed jobs, but because of his work among those injured in earthquakes in Armenia and his treatment of the wounded in the former Yugoslavia, he was seen as the natural choice to lead the mission. As well as being the accident and emergency consultant at the Stoke-on-Trent hospital, Mr Redmond is a senior lecturer in emergency and disaster medicine at Keele University.

An advance team was quickly on its way yesterday to Stansted airport, Essex, to begin stocking the chartered Russian Tupolev aircraft with equipment needed to transport sick children and their relatives from Ancona, Italy, to Britain.

Stretchers, drip feeds and other medical supplies needed to provide an airborne intensive care ward were set up on board the plane. The rest of the team were briefed in Staffordshire by Mr Redmond before making their way to Essex to wait for the green light to mount their humanitarian mission.

John Wicks, business manager of the trauma unit at the Stoke-on-Trent hospital, said: "This is purely an ODA mission and Mr Redmond was called in because he has experience of working with the

United Nations and the World Health Organisation. The team are specialists who could only be found within the NHS.

"They were able to respond quickly and they are now preparing their equipment for the journey. Some specialist stuff has to be taken out there to provide proper care for these people."

The RAF Hercules aircraft that will airlift the children out of Sarajevo is fitted with a wide range of equipment to guard the large, vulnerable plane from attack. Flares and chaff can be fired to confuse

missile. However, British sources said the threat from small arms fire should not be underestimated. "Flying low and slow as the Hercules does, all you have to do is point your guns in the air and there is a wall of lead," said a defence source.

"Lead and thin aluminium tubes, not to mention engines, do not mix very well. The threat is very real."

Dr Redmond's full team: Mark Prescott, A&E consultant and a lecturer on disaster medicine at Keele University; Dr Peter Oakley, anaesthesia and trauma consultant; Professor David Southall, professor of paediatrics, all from North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary.

Dr Keith Little, A&E consultant; Dr Ursula Guly, senior registrar in accident and emergency; and Dr Allen McKinley, surgical unit, all from Edinburgh Royal Infirmary.

Jonathan Hopper, orthopaedic and trauma surgeon, Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital.

Dr Michael Ward, consultant anaesthetist; Chris Bulstrode, surgeon; David Skinner, A&E consultant, from John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford.

Ian Macintosh, immigration officer, Manchester Airport.

The nurses in the team are Carol Straton, Susan Kennedy, Alison McCallum, Fiona Robertson and Anne Grant, from Edinburgh Royal Infirmary.

Angela Brown, Tracey Fletcher, Marie Orzell and Sarah Perry, from John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford.

Susan Hulme, Simon Davies, Ruth Buckley, Glyn Jones, and Ian Wood, North Staffordshire Hospital.

Brian Bayle, Peter Byrne and Susan Smith, from Birmingham Trauma and Burns.

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Since the air link into Sarajevo was established in July last year, the RAF has not underestimated the threat from the ground, which claimed an Italian relief plane with a four-man crew last September.

A principal threat from the Serbs comes with the Soviet-manufactured SA-14 Grenadin, a shoulder-launched heat-seeking missile, which is similar to the American Stinger

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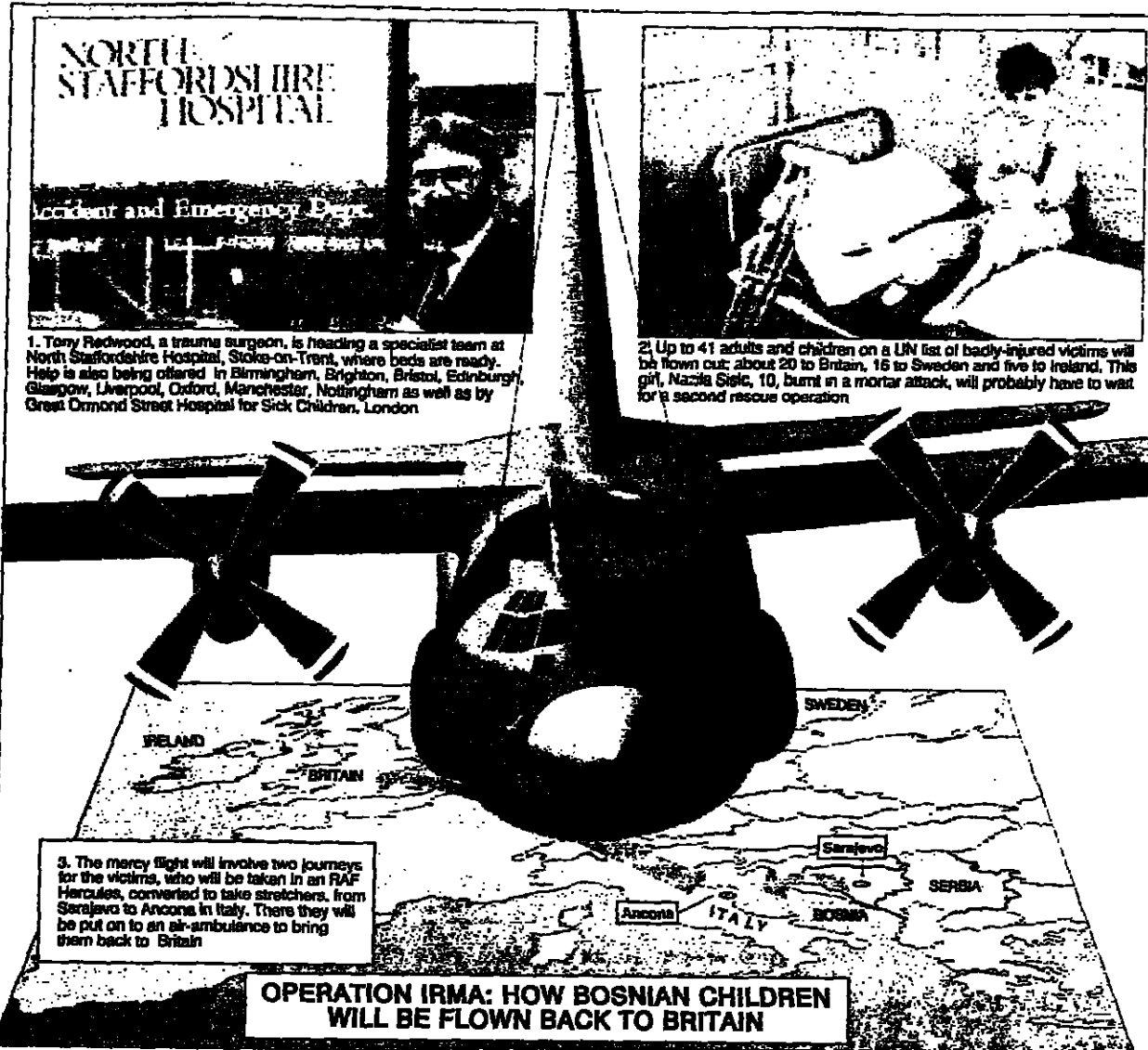
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OPERATION IRMA: HOW BOSNIAN CHILDREN WILL BE FLOWN BACK TO BRITAIN

UN wants field hospital in Sarajevo

By IAN MURRAY

GENERAL Jean Cot, United Nations commander in the former Yugoslavia, called yesterday for an American military field hospital to be moved from Croatia to Sarajevo for medical and political reasons.

Aid agencies working in Bosnia claimed, however, that plenty of hospital beds and medical staff were available throughout the country and said that no field hospital could operate without supply lines, which were impossible to guarantee. They argued that patients should continue to be treated locally and flown out of the country only as a last resort.

The military hospital, which has 310 trained staff, was established last year mainly to treat UN personnel. General Cot told a news conference in Zagreb that it

■ The UN team sees political benefits in a medical unit. Aid workers say that it will be useless without greater political will

"would be of considerable advantage [in Sarajevo] if there are more war wounded coming in".

The general, who has asked Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN secretary-general, to press the American government for the hospital to be moved urgently, said that moving it to Sarajevo would also serve a political purpose. "It would show that the Americans are ready to commit themselves in a different way than just using air power."

Yves Sorensen of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Zagreb was not sure that the military hospital would offer great

help in Sarajevo. "You must remember that Sarajevo is only part of the problem. Although it was wonderful that Irma was taken to London for medical treatment, there are hundreds of other Irmas all over the country whose plight is just as desperate."

"What is lacking is the political will to force supplies through to the 219 hospitals and medical centres that already exist in Bosnia," she said. "The problem is not lack of space or trained nurses and doctors... because of the fighting, they lack the fuel to run electricity and the infrastructure properly. The infrastruc-

ture is there already but not the political will to make it function."

Yousef Hajian, information director of the Refugee Council, opposed evacuation unless patients' lives were in imminent danger from lack of medical care. "Why should these people have to leave their homeland? In terms of human experience that is all wrong."

James Newsome, of Help the Aged, said: "If there were a field hospital the problem would be to ensure supplies on a predictable basis. That is what has always plagued the entire operation."

"The international community has failed to provide effective life-support in Sarajevo. There are only two things you can do - get aid in, through diplomatic means or bring those who need help to Britain."

Fears for Irma turn to cautious optimism

By BILL FROST

DOCTORS treating Irma Hadzimuratovic expressed cautious optimism yesterday that the seriously wounded child appeared to be "holding her own" after further surgery at Great Ormond Street hospital in London.

The five-year-old girl, flown to Britain on Monday from Sarajevo, was said to be critical but stable. On Wednesday there were fears that her condition would deteriorate further after the onset of severe bacterial meningitis. The hospital said that a 3½-hour operation carried out on Wednesday night to repair Irma's abdominal injuries, caused by shrapnel, had been satisfactory.

Jeremy Booth, an accident and emergency consultant, said yesterday: "We must remember she's had two operations within a short time. That is obviously a great assault on her body."

"But I would be cautiously optimistic. Little girls have an amazing ability to bounce back after operations - much better than an adult would have."

Quen Mok, one of the consultants treating the child, said: "Irma is still holding her own. Although her meningitis is responding slowly to antibiotics, she is still unconscious, on a ventilator and continuing to receive drugs to support her heart."

Dr Kathy Wilkinson said that Irma could remain on the critical list for days. "The public need to realise that the changes that will occur in Irma will almost certainly be quite slow."

Cards, flowers, toys and other gifts from well-wishers continued to arrive at the hospital yesterday. A spokeswoman said that the hospital had received 10 to 12 sacks of mail for Irma. "The response has been very strong and very heart-warming for her father."

Ramiz Hadzimuratovic, 36, and Irma's sister Medina, 3, have been with her since she arrived at the hospital.

Since Monday the hospital has received 11,000 telephone calls from the public enquiring about Irma's condition.

Infatuated farmer goes to jail gladly

By A STAFF REPORTER

A FARMER was sent to prison for three weeks yesterday for harassing a retired army major with whom she had become infatuated.

Even the prospect of jail did not seem to lessen Rosemary Cook's admiration for Major John Allen, who was in Truro Crown Court to watch her sentenced. "If it pleases John, I will very gladly and voluntarily go to jail," she said with a smile as she was led away.

"Thank you, John."

Cook, 49, the mother of a 12-year-old girl, insisted in court that her name was Allen. She made no attempt to deny that she had repeatedly broken a court injunction in June that ordered her not to cause a nuisance or trespass on the major's land, a few miles from her farm at Week St Mary, near Bude.

Michael Warne, Major Allen's solicitor, said yesterday that his client had no idea why Cook had behaved in such a way. "There has been no kind

of relationship," he said after the case.

"The only connection is a business one. In the past Major Allen completed Mrs Cook's VAT returns for her."

The court was told by Sheila Taurah, for the prosecution, that trouble between the two had started last October "when there was an exchange of words and a gate on the major's property was painted white. That led to Cook being bound over in January to keep the peace for a year."

In June, however, the major and his wife again went to court to obtain an injunction against Cook, who was causing them "harassment, distress and alarm". Four times since then, gates on their property that had been closed were found open and twice Cook was found on their land.

Cook was ordered to serve a suspended seven-day sentence for the first breach of the injunction and jailed for a further 14 days.

Soccer tackles its racist supporters

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

FOOTBALL clubs are to support a campaign to combat racism among their supporters as part of a drive to stop abuse of black players.

Almost all the 92 clubs are supporting the campaign to "kick racism out of football" by putting an anti-racist message in their programmes and by displaying posters at grounds.

The move to tackle racism at football matches begins tomorrow with the start of the football season in England and Wales. Only seven clubs - Norwich, Southampton, Luton, Brighton, Fulham, Crewe and Crystal Palace, have not yet joined, according to the Commission for Racial Equality, which is launching the campaign with the Professional Footballers' Association.

Its aim is to curb racial abuse on the terraces, make grounds more hospitable to supporters from ethnic minority communities who refuse to

attend matches because of hostility from white fans, and to limit harassment caused to Asian and black people living near some football grounds.

Paul Elliott, 27, a centre back with Chelsea, said at the launch of the campaign in central London that his worst experiences had been when playing for Celtic and during games against clubs in the North. "In Scotland there were monkey chants and bananas thrown on to the pitch. Every time I came into possession of the ball, they would boo and shout 'You black bastard', or 'There is no place for people like you in Scotland,'" he said.

Mr Elliott, born in Lewisham, southeast London, said that during the past five years the atmosphere at many grounds had improved as more and more black players had entered the game. "Black players are here to stay. We have a substantial amount to offer the game."

Police foil 3,000lb van-bomb attempt

By EDWARD GORMAN
IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

POLICE in Northern Ireland intercepted a massive IRA van bomb yesterday, bringing the quantity of explosives recovered in the province in the past month to about 11,000lbs.

The device weighed 3,000lbs in home-made or fertiliser-based explosive, more than twice the size of the bomb that devastated the City of London in April. The bomb had been packed into a Mercedes van and is thought to have been destined for the centre of Portadown in co. Armagh, which was wrecked in May when a 1,000lb device exploded, injuring six people.

The interception appears to have been a matter of chance. A police patrol spotted two cars and a van driving towards Portadown early in the morning. As the officers turned to follow, the van and the cars turned into a nationalist estate, where they were abandoned. About 70 homes were evacuated as bomb disposal



Explosive find: police display the van bomb intercepted yesterday in Portadown

officers moved in to make the device safe. Three men, two from Portadown and one from Armagh, were arrested. "Had it not been for that police patrol, we would probably have been picking up dead bodies and rubble this morning," a police officer said.

The Portadown operation is the latest in a series of interceptions by the police and the army in the past month which represent a serious setback for the Provisionals.

Police in Belfast are hunting a Loyalist gang in the west of the city after a brain-damaged Roman Catholic was beaten to death. In 1987

Seamus Hopkins had survived an assault by Loyalists when breeze blocks were dropped on his head, causing him brain damage and epilepsy. The body of Mr Hopkins, 24, was discovered in undergrowth with severe head injuries. Police are treating his murder as sectarian.

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Second farmer's death raises fear of 'mad cow' cover-up

By Nigel Hawkes
SCIENCE EDITOR

THE death of a second dairy farmer from a rare brain condition after his herd was struck by "mad cow" disease was no cause for undue concern, the health department said yesterday.

The reassurance was immediately condemned by Professor Richard Lacey, head of clinical microbiology at Leeds University, who accused the government of a massive cover-up. "These deaths are simply not explicable on the grounds of probability," Professor Lacey, a leading critic of the government on food safety issues, said. "It is more than 99 per cent likely that the infection spreads directly from the cows to the farmers."

Duncan Templeman, from Weston Farm, near Crewkerne, Somerset, died at the age of 65 from Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD), the closest human equivalent to bovine spongiform encephalitis (BSE), which has affected more than 100,000 British dairy cattle since 1984. Earlier this year another dairy farmer, Peter Warhurst, 61, died of the same disease.

CJD is a brain disorder whose symptoms include dementia, loss of balance, blindness and deafness. Once symptoms appear, death usually follows within a year.

Yesterday the health department said that although CJD was a rare disease, two cases might occur among dairy farmers by chance. Advice from its experts was that it was not possible "to reach any conclusions about a connection between BSE and CJD as a result of these two CJD cases". The case did not suggest that there was any need to revise the measures already taken to safeguard the public's health against possible exposure to the BSE agent.

The government's confidence is based on several strands of evidence. The strongest is that all existing evidence suggests that CJD takes up to 20 years to show symptoms in humans, while BSE has been present in cattle for fewer than ten years. Mr Templeman's herd did not show the disease until a few months before he died. "It is most unlikely, therefore, that there is any direct link between the cases of BSE and the occurrence of disease in the patient," the department said.

Mr Templeman's case, it said, was typical of the 50 or so "sporadic" cases of CJD that arise with no obvious cause in Britain every year. Such cases almost always arise in people

■ A dairy farmer whose cattle had BSE has died from a rare brain illness. The government denies that there is any link

in their 60s; if Mr Templeman had been a younger man, his case would be a much greater cause for concern.

The number of CJD cases is rising, from 32 in 1990-1 to 37 in 1991-2 and 48 in 1992-3, but this may be a result of increased diagnosis rather than increasing incidence. Many deaths once attributed to dementia, or to Alzheimer's disease, are now correctly described as CJD.

So far Professor Lacey remains almost alone in believing that a link exists between the disease and BSE. Yesterday he said that Mr Templeman's death would be the "the forerunner of many more" and accused the government of gambling with people's lives by continuing to deny any link.

Dr Gareth Roberts, director of molecular neuropathology for the drug company SmithKline Beecham, said that the rise in CJD cases "needs explaining". An increase by half in two years was very surprising, he said. "If the disease in cows can trigger the disease in man, we would expect to see an increase in the number of cases over the next decade."

Cult girl 'weird and emotionless'

By Michael Horsnell

A GIRL rescued in 1986 from the clutches of a cult commune in North Wales emerged from her experience as a weird, bewildered and emotionless child, the Old Bailey was told yesterday.

Rebecca Teacher, 11, could not tell the difference between the pavement and the road when brought to London by her mother, was unable to spell and ate voraciously. Her condition was described to the jury by William Webb, her stepfather. Kevin O'Byrne, the cult leader and Rebecca's father, "ruled the roost". Mr Webb said. Many of its members were paranoid. The girl had been rescued by her mother, Christiana Spanchak, a former member of the Teachers sect, who won wardship proceedings against it in the High Court.

The court has been told that Miss Teacher, now 18, decided last year - after failing to sue her father for her childhood misery - to blackmail him for up to £60,000 by threatening to expose the cult's activities to the press. She and Mr Webb, 43, who live with Miss Spanchak in Barnet, Hertfordshire, both deny conspiring to blackmail Mr O'Byrne. Miss Teacher claims she was sexually and physically abused by members of the cult during her formative years.

Mr Webb told the jury that

he helped Miss Spanchak to escape by night from the cult's former premises in Ealing, north London, in 1986 before the couple recovered Miss Teacher.

The court has been told that the sect persuaded mothers to separate from their children shortly after birth. Miss Spanchak spent the first 11 years of her daughter's life in London working as a computer analyst and donating all her earnings to the cult. Mr Webb said: "My first reaction on meeting Rebecca was 'This child is weird.' Eventually she began to confide in me and now we get on well enough. Initially she was completely emotionless, a blank little child with not a lot to say."

The trial continues today.



Rebecca: "blank child with not a lot to say"

Bystander shot trying to stop raid

By Geoff King

A MAN was shot in the chest and legs and a woman was hit in the face with a crowbar yesterday when members of the public attempted to tackle two post office raiders.

David Scovell, 53, was hit twice at close range with blasts from a shotgun as he tried to stop the men, whose motorcycle had been rammed by a car as they tried to make off with about £10,000.

The raiders were knocked off their machine again, by a pickup van, as they attempted to get away. One was caught by two soldiers who gave chase. The other got back onto the motorcycle and escaped.

The woman, aged 69, was attacked when the men burst into the post office in Poole, Dorset. She was treated for head injuries at Poole General Hospital. Mr Scovell, a former council worker, was transferred to Southampton General Hospital for surgery, where his condition was serious.

Chris Homer, a friend of Mr Scovell, said: "I saw Dave go up to them and try to grab them. They pushed him away and shot him twice."

Det Insp Geoff Croft, who is leading the hunt for the man who escaped, said: "This was an atrocious crime and the bravery shown by members of the public is nothing short of heroic."

Saboteurs spoil grouse shooters' glory

IAN HALDRE



On the trail: Jimmy Oswald, head gamekeeper at the Glen Tamar estate, and his dog scan the heather at the forest of Caledon, near Balmoral, for grouse early on the Glorious Twelfth yesterday. At least two shoots had to be cancelled on the opening day of the season because of demonstrations by animal rights protesters, and at least two others were disrupted (Gillian Bowditch writes).

About 40 activists and hunt saboteurs using CB radios disrupted a grouse

shoot on Arkengarthdale Moor, North Yorkshire. Only one drive was completed before the demonstrators obliged the shooting party to take an early lunch. In the Scottish borders a grouse shoot in the Lammermoor Hills had to be cancelled after about 30 demonstrators walked onto the hills and into the line of fire.

Cold weather and disease have reduced bird numbers this year, which is likely to be a poor one for grouse-shooting. The lack of activity on the

moors led to a scramble among London's top hotels for the few available birds. The Ritz managed to get hold of two, which were roasted for dinner.

John Williams, chef de cuisine at Claridge's, was pessimistic about the supply of birds. "Everyone is scrambling for them. There is hardly any shooting going on in the country. Our suppliers are frantically trying to share out grouse."

Shopping guide, page 6

Man jailed for home-leave killing

By Richard Duce

A JUDGE has called for an investigation into the case of a drug dealer who committed murder after absconding while on home leave.

Police and prison authorities lost track of Earl Francis, 33, when he was allowed out of Lincoln prison. Seven months later he stabbed a man in a public house.

Mrs Justice Smith, who sentenced Francis to life imprisonment after he was convicted at Birmingham Crown Court on Wednesday, said: "I want to know why such a long period elapsed before he was

apprehended. This is a matter of great public concern."

MPs also expressed alarm last night that Francis, who had a history of violent crime, was allowed home leave and then able to vanish until the murder in August 1991. Dame Jill Knight, Conservative MP for Edgbaston, said: "I cannot comprehend how a man given a sentence for violent crime could possibly be allowed out and remain out with impunity."

Warren Hawksley, Tory MP for Halesowen and Stourbridge, said: "The prime minister is looking at parole guidelines and this case is

exactly the kind of example which highlights the need for change."

Francis, of no fixed address, had served three years of a five-year sentence for robbing a pensioner when he was granted home leave. He killed Denver Taylor, 32, a chef from Moseley, after an argument. Francis was dealing in drugs in the pub and admitted charges of possessing cannabis and LSD.

The judge said she was concerned that there had been a breakdown in communication between the police and prison officials. West Midlands police said yesterday: "It

is almost three years since Francis failed to return from home leave and... we will be seeking to find out what information was received from the prison authorities at that time and what action the force concerned took to trace him."

The fact that the system appears to allow prisoners with violent records to be released will always be a concern to us."

A review of home leave procedures is being carried out by the prison service. Last year 2,301 prisoners failed to return out of 30,000-40,000 released on home leave.

Mighty brew

The Ross Brewing Company, Bristol, has produced a real ale called Uncle Eagle's Famous Falling Over Water that is 17.3 per cent by volume. It will be sold by the glass for £2.

Close to home

The Co-operative Funeral Service is to open a funeral parlour next door to an old people's home in Cleethorpes, Humberside, despite a petition signed by 500 people.

Job parade

Cambridgeshire police have signed a deal with an employment agency to fill identity papers in Peterborough.

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Passing Attractions

Canterbury

Famous for? The cathedral, archbishops, pilgrimages (ancient and modern), cricket weeks, French day-trippers, a "red" Dean, choirboys. Appearance? Film studio lot during the making of *Les Misérables*, with French day-trippers as extras.

Atmosphere? Redolent of chips frying, with occasional wafts of incense.

Claims to fame? The oldest church still in use in Britain (pre-410). Home of King's School, possibly the oldest school in the world (c.600). Site of a notable murder by four day-trippers from France (1170). The place where the charter for the Mayflower was signed (1620). The southern terminus of the world's first passenger rail service (the "crab and winkle" line to Whitstable, opened 1830, axed 1953). The venue for the signing of the Channel Tunnel contract between Margaret Thatcher and François Mitterrand.

Gave name to? Tales for A-level students. New Zealand lamb, bells which are really flowers, a horse's easy gallop (canter is an abbreviation of the so-called Canterbury gallop of wealthy pilgrims' horses).

Oddities? The Archbishop of Canterbury is allowed into town only by invitation of the Dean, and when he stays there he is referred to as The Visitor. Local cricket rules say the lime tree which invades the County Ground is actually a fielder which always drops its catches. A six into its branches counts only as a four.

Birth place of? King's scholar and playwright Christopher Marlowe (1564), Rupert Bear (1920).

Marriage scene of? Isaac Walton, the compleat angler (who was caught by Rachel Flude in 1626).

Death place of? Ian Fleming, who was inspired to write *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* in the city.

Burial place of? Henry IV, the Black Prince, the headless body of Archbishop Sudbury, the bodyless head of Sir Thomas More.

Montgomery of Alamein, who left the King's School after one term because he hated it. Other notable King's School Old Boys? W. Somerset Maugham, David Gower, William Harvey (who realised that blood circulated), David Copperfield and Hugh Walpole (the novelist).

Local residents? Audrey Eytton (devisor of the E-plan die), Joseph Conrad, Barry McGuigan, Bob Geldof, cheerful Charlie Chester and Joanna Lumley.

What others wrote about it? John Wesley: "Nay, I do not despair even of poor Canterbury; it is not out of God's reach."

Karl Marx: "An ugly, medieval sort of town."

Thomas Smollett: "My wife could not help regretting even the inns of Canterbury. Bad as they are they are at least superior to the execrable suburbs of France."



Holy grail: today's pilgrims to the cathedral include thousands of tourists

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the newspaper.

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London magistrates
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de

MPs back trawlermen in dispute over fishing days

By MICHAEL HORNSBY
AGRICULTURE
CORRESPONDENT

Proposals to limit Britain's fishing fleet have failed to convince a Commons select committee. A rethink may be unavoidable

FISHERMEN have won the support of an all-party committee of MPs for their campaign against government plans to limit the number of days trawlers can spend at sea each year.

The Commons select committee on agriculture says in a report published today that the proposed measures are unnecessarily draconian, would threaten the British fishing fleet with a "catastrophic financial implosion" and should be abandoned. Earlier this year fishermen blockaded harbours and staged other protests at ports around Britain in protest at the limits, which the government says are needed to reduce fishing capacity and to conserve dwindling fish stocks.

Richard Banks, chief executive of the National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations (NFFO), said: "This greatly strengthens our position. I think the tide has now turned and the government would be very foolish to press ahead with its plans in defiance of the

committee's recommendation." The select committee's report dismissed as "half-hearted" the government's decommissioning scheme, under which fishermen would be paid to scrap surplus vessels over the next three years. The MPs say the £25 million allocated to the scheme is inadequate and that "more

money should be committed to make a serious effort to reduce over-capacity."

This too is in line with fishermen's thinking. Both the NFFO and the Scottish Fishermen's Federation have called for up to £120 million to be spent on decommissioning.

Gavin Strang, the Labour fisheries spokesman, said that the government should now back down. "We have consistently said that days-at-sea limits would be unfair and uneconomic, and would increase the risk of loss of life at sea," he said, referring to fishermen's fears that they would be forced to stay at sea in bad weather to maximise their catch.

Gillian Shepherd, the agriculture minister, last month postponed the introduction of the days-at-sea limits, originally scheduled for October 1, until January 1, 1994, to permit further discussion with the industry. But she insisted that

there was no question of abandoning the proposal.

A ministry spokesman said yesterday: "The purpose of the delay was to allow more time to consider possible modifications of the proposal and that remains the position. The minister has already made clear that she sees great difficulty in getting any more money out of the Treasury for decommissioning."

The committee, which is chaired by Sir Jerry Wiggin, Tory MP for West-on-Super-Mare, suggests that days-at-sea restrictions should be replaced by a mixture of more rigorous technical conservation measures, including the use of nets with a larger mesh size that catch fewer fish.

"At the moment, if fishermen catch more than their quota of a particular species, they have to discard the excess, throwing the fish back dead into the sea, which is massively wasteful," Sir Jerry said. "Under our proposal a trawlerman could offer the surplus, at a special lower price, for sale to another fisherman and the catch would then count against his quota."



Strang: government must now back down



Fossilising for fossils: Sir David Attenborough and David Watts, 10, from London, hunting for fossils from the Jurassic period during a Rockwatch field trip to Alkerton quarry in Oxfordshire. David went on to find a belemnite, a squid-like creature from the shallow sea that covered the area 200 million years ago

Watchdog criticises BBC's appetite for Chatterley sex

By JAMIE DETTMER

SEX scenes in an episode of the recent BBC television adaptation of *Lady Chatterley's Lover* were criticised by the Broadcasting Standards Council yesterday for being too long and too rough.

The council also ruled that the love-making in the second episode of the four-part dramatisation of D.H. Lawrence's novel was shown too early in the evening. The programme began at 9.35pm. Lady Chatterley, who was played by Joely Richardson, and the gamekeeper Mellors, portrayed by Sean Bean, had sex three times in the second episode of Ken Russell's £3.7 million adaptation. Two of the scenes took place in the gamekeeper's hut and one against a tree.

The council received more than 20 complaints from viewers about the explicitness of the sex scenes and the timing of the June broadcast. Several viewers also said that one scene gave the impression that Mellors was raping Lady Chatterley.

In its submission to the council, the BBC, which had toned down much of the sex in the dramatisation, argued that viewers had been warned in

announcements before the broadcast of the "explicit scenes of passion" to follow and that the audience was "not taken unawares". The corporation also said that in order to be faithful to the book it was important that the physical aspects of the relationship between Mellors and Lady Chatterley be explored.

It rejected the contention that one of the scenes amounted to a portrayal of rape. "It was sufficiently clear that Mellors' actions represented urgency rather than force and that Lady Chatterley's consent was ultimately not in doubt," the submission stated.

The council, while accepting that any adaptation of the novel required "explicit treatment of the sexual aspects", upheld some of the complaints. It said that the three love-making scenes were "unduly protracted" and as a result "the scene in the wood and the second scene in the hut gave an impression of duress outweighing their dramatic purpose".

The council also criticised the programme's 9.35pm starting time as being too early. It dismissed complaints about scenes in other episodes.

THE TIMES
WORLD CHESS
CHAMPIONSHIP

By RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

GRANDMASTER Mark Hebden has been one of the favourites for the British championships concluding today at Dundee University. Here is a win from the first week, where he uses a sharp variation of his favourite King's Indian Defence.

White: D James
Black: M Hebden
British Ch. Dundee 1993
King's Indian Defence

1	c4	Nf6
2	c4	g6
3	Nc3	Bg7
4	e4	d6
5	f3	0-0
6	Be3	c5
7	dxc5	dxc5
8	Qxd8	Rxd8
9	Bxc5	Nc6
10	Bd3	e5
11	Rd1	Nb4
12	Nd5	Nd4
13	Bd3	Bd5
14	cx5	Nd7
15	Na2	Ne5
16	Bb5	e6
17	d6	Nc2+
18	Kf2	Nx3
19	Bx3	Rac8
20	a4	Rc2
21	f4	Nc6
22	e5	Bd6
23	exf6	Rac2
24	Kf3	Ra3+
25	0-7	

Junior award

I am offering a book prize for the best game played by any junior (under 18) in any section of the British championships sent to me at *The Times* no later than August 21. The winning game will be published in this column.

All players of 18 or under competing in any section of the championships should send their entries to me: c/o Championship Chess, The Times, 1 Pennington St, London E1 9XN.

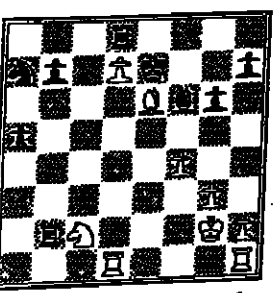
Entries should include the moves in algebraic notation plus an explanation of no more than 50 words as to why the chosen game should win.

Tournament chess

Thanet Chess League is holding its 24th congress on the weekend of August 22-24. For information telephone the secretary/treasurer on 0227 274855.

World championship

For attractive travel packages to the Kasparov-Short World Chess Championship match at the Savoy theatre in London in September and October telephone Travelcoast on 081 744 9494.



Winning Move, page 36

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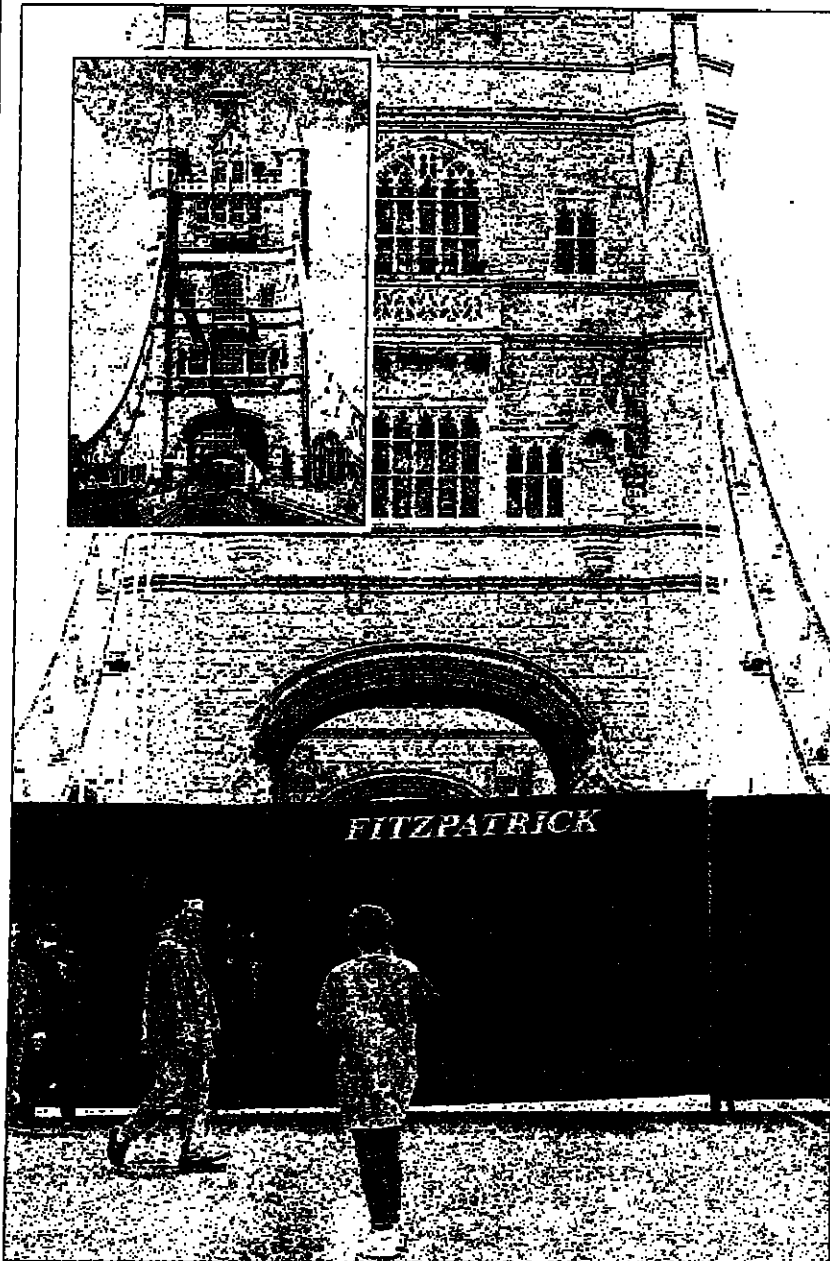
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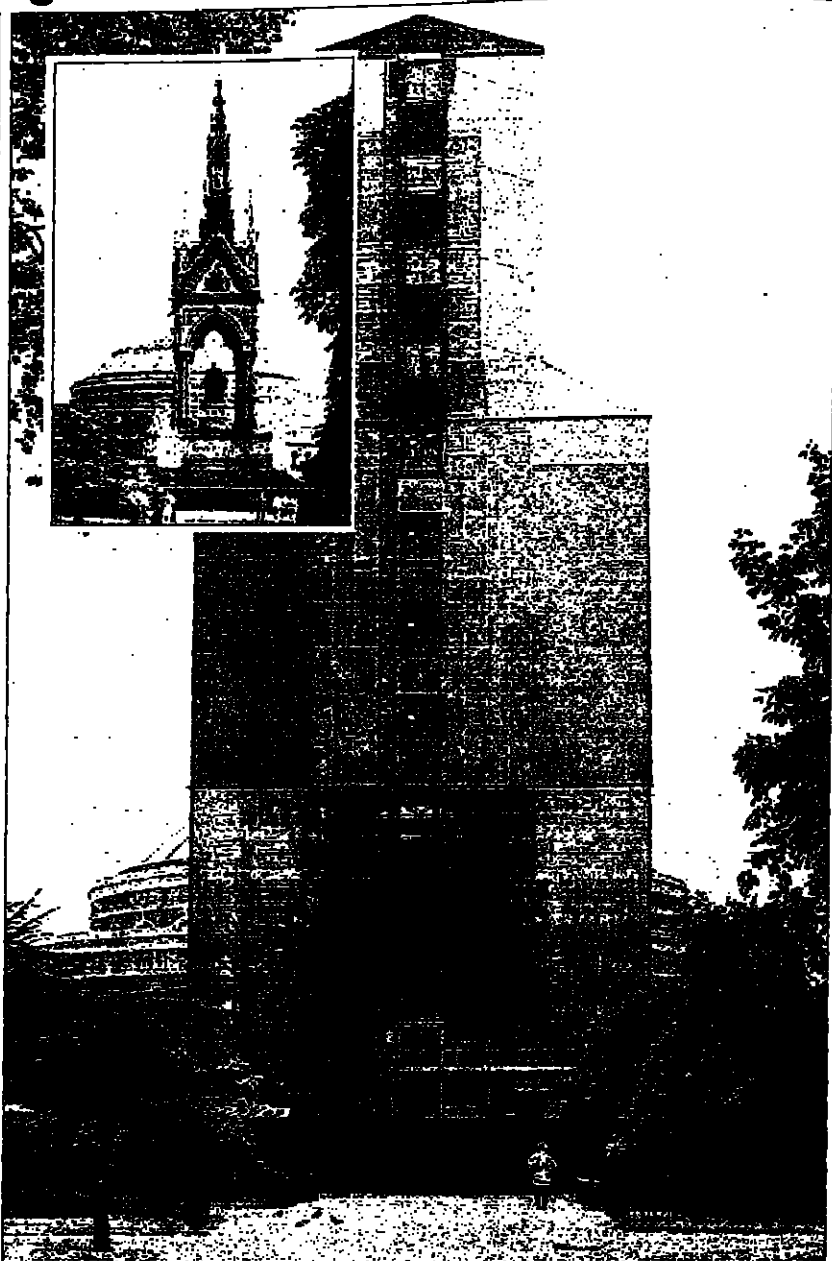
Sights of London can be seen only on a postcard



Tower of London: museum reopens in October after tourists have left



Henry VII chapel: George V keeps a stiff upper lip in the face of repairs



Albert Memorial: hidden since 1987, but do admire the scaffolding

Scaffolding masks tourist attractions

By IAN MURRAY

THE man from Victoria was not amused. Guide book in hand, James Wells, from Melbourne, stared at the largest free-standing scaffolding in Europe and wondered where Albert was. "This is the third time I've been to London in the past six years and he's still under wraps," he said. "Don't you Pommies know how to work?"

The Albert Memorial has been hidden from view since 1987 and tourists who want to admire this high point of Victorian neo-Gothic art have to make do with a postcard. Kit Wedd, of the Victorian Society, said: "He's been out of sight so long that people are beginning

to forget what he looks like. There is no sign at all that we are going to get the money needed to repair him so he could be there for many years to come."

Albert is just one of London's tourist attractions that look best on a postcard this summer. Although the scaffolding has at last come down from the Houses of Parliament, the view across the square towards Big Ben is obstructed by a building site, where London Underground is digging a hole for the Jubilee Line extension. The crane and hoardings will be there until October.

On the other side of the square, the ancient buttresses of Westminster Abbey have emerged from a cocoon of netting, but poor George V, on his plinth

overlooking Henry VII's chapel at the east end, has to maintain his dignity against a backdrop of hoardings and shouting building workers.

Tower Bridge has also been a near no-go area. Closed to road traffic since mid-June, pedestrians have been allowed to slalom through the barricades at either end, but the museum remains shut and is likely to remain so until the tourist season is largely over in October.

One of the most famous addresses in London is permanently shut to tourists. The threat from international terrorists means that Downing Street is closed off by a grille that would grace Brixton prison. A view of the front door of No 10 is available only on a postcard.



Snap happy: tourists in London still manage to catch something between the cranes and hoardings

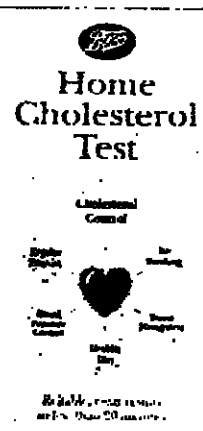


"It's impossible to tell whose cholesterol level is higher."

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Rain dampens Cornwall's outlook

By RICHARD DUCE

TOURISM officials in Cornwall fear that dismal summer weather could have an adverse long-term effect on the local economy.

Figures show that holiday-makers in the far west endured the highest rainfall in the UK last month. Nearly eight inches fell on Penzance in July, forcing some tourists to pack up and go home early.

In the short term, the weather is proving a boon for trade as beachgoers are forced into shops and restaurants, but in the long term the council in Penzance fears that people will be deterred from Cornish holidays.

Mike Foxley, the tourism

and marketing officer for Penwith council, said yesterday: "The weather has been pretty grim. The beaches are under-utilised and people come into the towns to spend money. Penzance and St Ives have been packed, but the problem will be next year."

Mr Foxley said the concern was that tourists would weigh up how much extra they had been forced to spend occupying themselves and opt next year for a package holiday and guaranteed sunshine.

He said that the three million visitors expected this year were the minimum needed by the area. "If it falls below, a lot of businesses will be in dire straits."

In Cornwall 21 per cent of

the population is involved in the tourist industry which, according to recent figures, is worth £585 million to the local economy. In the area covered by Penwith council, unemployment is running above 14 per cent.

Cornwall hopes that next year it will be eligible for cash from the English Tourist Board under its tourism renewal initiative for areas deemed to be in need of economic assistance. The £500,000 grant would have to be matched by local government funding. "Following a bad season like this, we are going to have to put a lot of energy and thought into marketing," Mr Foxley said.

Nigel Buckler, of the West

Cornwall tourist board, which covers the area from Cornwall to Devon in which the industry is worth £2.5 billion a year, was more upbeat about the effects of rain in dampening holiday spirits for next season.

"The weather is only part of the holiday and people come here not only to sit on beaches but to walk on the cliffs and visit tourist attractions," he said.

A spokeswoman for the English Tourist Board said: "We have had two bad summers in a row. We have to believe that it must improve. The weather is a factor but we know that it is not the be all and end all."

Forecast, page 18

SHOPPING GUIDE

Salmon offers better value than grouse

By ADAM WILLIAMSON

IT MAY be the start of the shooting season, but grouse is neither cheap nor plentiful this weekend. Scottish salmon is currently good value, however, and should make a most acceptable alternative.

Waitrose has whole Scottish salmon on offer this week at £2.69 a lb, while Harrods wild salmon is £8.75 a lb, a saving of £2.

White fish generally provides some good deals, with many supermarkets offering haddock at particularly competitive prices. Tesco has smoked haddock fillets down 60p at £2.78 a lb, while Waitrose small haddock fillets are good value at £1.99. Cod fillets are down 50p to £2.49 for 680g at Iceland.

Oily fish is also still good value this weekend, with herrings widely available at about £1.00 a lb. Fresh sardines are £1.59 a lb at Gateway, while kippers are especially good value at around £2.20 a lb.

Beef and lamb provide the best meat buys. British leg of lamb is £1.89 a lb at Sainsbury and down 60p to £1.68 at Gateway. Fresh rolled brisket of beef is £1.99 a lb at Asda, and fresh rump steak is £3.85 a lb at Sainsbury.

Over on the fruit counter,

Spain's Santa Rosa plums are currently in mid-season, and are excellent value at only 39p a lb at Waitrose.

This week's advertised best buys:

Asda: rolled brisket of beef, £1.99 a lb; sausages, £1.29 for 400g; beef topside joints, £3.49 each; grapefruit, 75p for four. Gateway: ham on the bone, 59p a quarter; lamb legs, £1.68 a lb; sardines, £1.59 a lb; pork pies, 99p for six. Harrods: wild salmon, £8.75 a lb; Bulgarian feta cheese, £4.95 a lb; turkey pastrami in pepper, £6.35 a lb. Iceland: grade A chicken, £5.49 for 6lb; sirloin steaks, £3.99 for six; cod fillets, £2.49 for 680g; oven-crisp haddock fillets, £1.99 for 600g. Sainsbury: leg of lamb, £1.89 a lb; honey roast ham, 69p a qtr; all melons, 64p each; chicken breast fillets, £3.68 a lb. Sainsbury: rump steak, £3.85 a lb; large pork sausages, 85p a lb; broccoli, 49p a lb; courgettes, 39p a lb. Tesco: smoked haddock fillet, £2.78 a lb; fore ribs of beef, £1.99 a lb; honeydew melons, 64p each; neck fillet of lamb, £2.69 a lb. Waitrose: lamb shoulder, 79p a lb; haddock fillets, £1.99 a lb; Santa Rosa plums, 39p a lb; Scottish salmon, £2.69 a lb.

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هكذا مثلاً الأصل

Nato ready for air strike as Bosnian Serb troops remain in position

Karadzic ignores Owen's deadline to quit Igman

BY EDWARD LUCE
IN GENEVA AND
EVE-ANN PRENTICE

BOSNIAN Serb forces failed to withdraw fully from Mount Igman overlooking Sarajevo yesterday, breaking a deadline set by the Geneva peace negotiators and heightening the risk of Nato air strikes.

The failure to satisfy the demands made by Lord Owen and Thorvald Stoltenberg to pull out by mid-morning yesterday also undermined attempts to revive the Geneva negotiations.

The international mediators summoned Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, for evening talks to try to press him to make good promises that his troops would pull back. John Mills, spokesman for the negotiators, said: "The co-chairmen are not satisfied that Bosnian Serb forces have left Igman mountain."

President Izetbegovic of Bosnia-Herzegovina said after a two-hour morning session with the mediators: "We ask that Serbs be pushed from the mountains today, not tomorrow but today."

Preparations for possible Nato attacks on Serb positions gathered pace. General Francis Brigueumont, the commander of United Nations

Nato pilots and UN ground troops are finalising their strategy as Bosnia accuses Serbs of moving rocket launchers to the hilltop. The battle of nerves is intensifying

troops in Bosnia, met Nato officers at an air base at Vicenza in northern Italy to discuss the air strike plans. The general, who has expressed concern for the safety of 9,000 UN peacekeepers in the event of air strikes, had four hours of talks with senior officers, a Nato spokesman said.

Earlier yesterday, General Jean Cot, commander of the UN Protection Force in former Yugoslavia, said in Zagreb that General Brigueumont's talks focused on the urgent need for tight co-ordination between Nato pilots and UN ground troops to minimise casualties.

In Geneva, Dr Karadzic insisted that the Bosnian Serb forces had pulled back to lines they occupied before a July 30 ceasefire and blamed the UN for the trouble. As the battle of nerves and war of words widened, Haris Silajdzic, the Bosnian foreign minister, accused Serb forces of positioning new rocket launchers on Mount Igman. General Rasim

Delic, the commander of the Bosnian army, said the launchers appeared to be anti-aircraft missiles aimed at hitting back in the event of Nato air strikes. "We have information that on Igman some rocket systems are installed, probably anti-aircraft missiles, in order to act maybe against air strikes," General Delic said in Sarajevo.

Mr Izetbegovic meanwhile retreated from a threat to leave the Geneva negotiations and said he was prepared to stay in Geneva for "one day, two days, I don't know how long".

Behind the scenes in Geneva, sources in the Serb delegation said Dr Karadzic had a "furious" telephone conversation with his commanders in Bosnia. The sources said there was growing pressure on Dr Karadzic to replace General Ratko Mladic, who has led the Bosnian Serb forces in seizing more than 70 per cent of territory in the former Yugoslav republic.

Mate Boban, the leader of

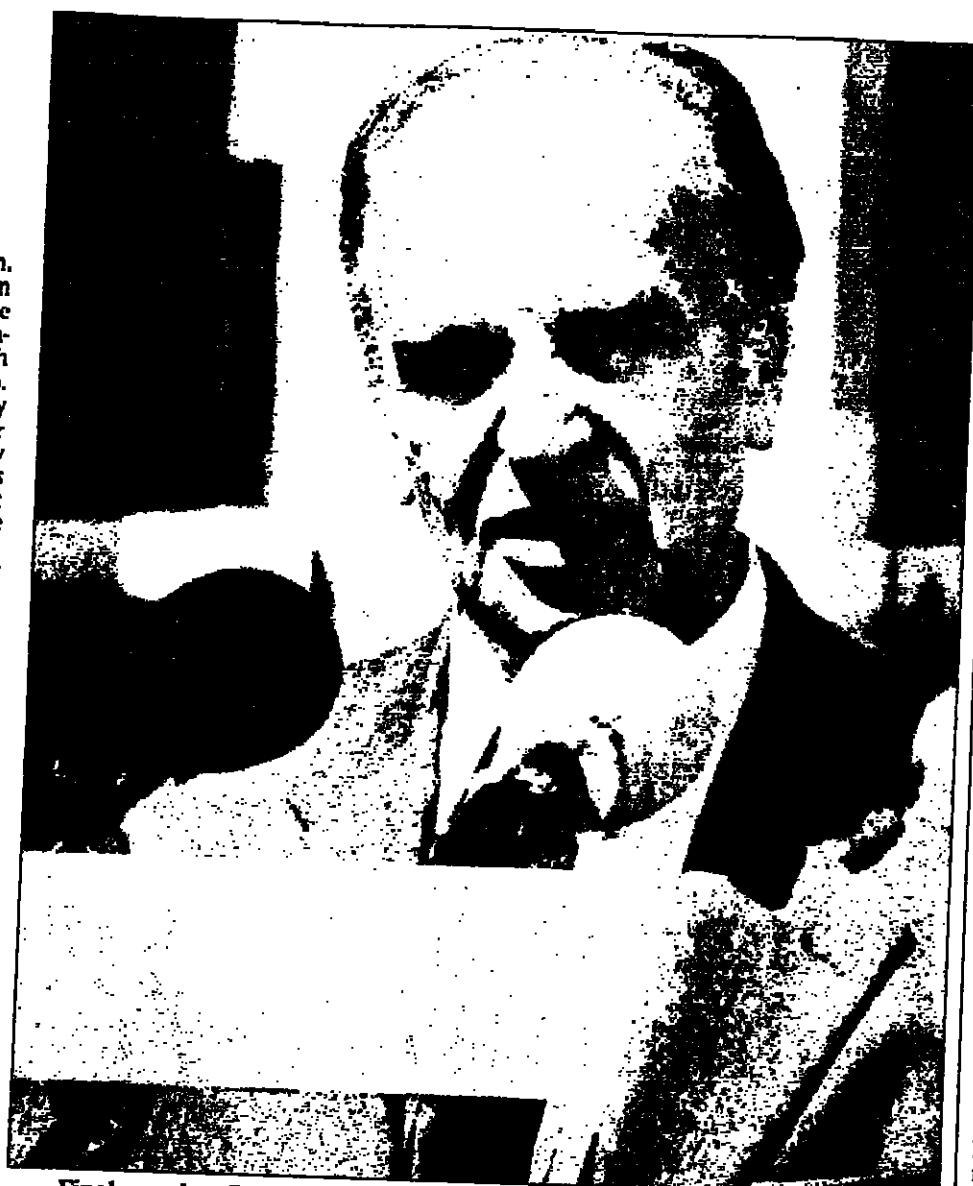
the Bosnian Croat delegation, added to the confusion in Geneva when he said the Bosnian Serb forces had completely evacuated the high ground above Sarajevo.

"There is no reason to delay talking any longer," Mr Boban said. "We can only resolve our disagreements through negotiations not through military means," he said.

In Sarajevo, some people believe the UN is deliberately moving French troops into the Mount Igman area, in the hope that their presence could deter air strikes. "The UN is getting suckered into a game they want to get suckered into," an analyst, who would not be identified, said. "They know very well what they are doing."

□ Vienna: Dr Karadzic threatened Europe with nuclear strikes if the West decided on military intervention in Bosnia, the Austrian news agency APA reported. "It is no problem to buy nuclear weapons on the world market. We will really carry it through," the agency quoted him as telling *Der Standard*. (Reuters)

Airlift delayed, page 1
Team assembled, page 3
Leading article, page 13



Final warning: President Izetbegovic issuing an ultimatum yesterday to the Serbs to quit the twin mountains overlooking Sarajevo within two days

Security stepped up at US air base

FROM AFP
IN ROME

POLICE have increased security around the American air base at Aviano, in northeastern Italy, in case of retaliation by Bosnian Serbs in the former Yugoslavia in response to Nato air strikes.

Ports and airports in northeastern Italy are under strict surveillance, as are supermarkets and beaches. Security checks have also been tightened at border crossing points and on roads in the area. Security guards with dogs trained to sniff for explosives have been posted at the entrance to the Aviano base, northeast of Venice. The annual air display, planned for Sunday, has been cancelled so that the reconnaissance missions over Bosnia-Herzegovina can continue without hindrance.

Serb nationalists have said that key installations in the West may be attacked if Nato or the United Nations intervenes militarily against the Bosnian Serbs.

□ Belgrade: The rump Yugoslavia, whose currency has been savaged by hyperinflation, yesterday issued a new 500 million dinar note, which is worth about \$7 (£4.70) at the black market rate. A 100 million dinar banknote was issued last Friday, then worth a little more than \$2 but now only \$1.25. (Reuters)

Through glass darkly down Snipers' Alley

The drive down Snipers' Alley brings a very different sensation in an armoured Land Rover.

The bulletproof glass in my colleague's vehicle distances us from the war around. Instead of racing for our lives down the treeline, we view it as from an aquarium, or like submariners at the bottom of the ocean—intruding on an unimaginable world.

Vojvoda Radomir Putnika was renamed Snipers' Alley by journalists in early May 1992. The main stretch is just short of two miles long, the dual carriageway coming within a few hundred yards of the front line. Serb snipers, aiming down intersecting roads, through gaps between buildings and small open fields, make the stretch terribly treacherous at times. For the past few weeks it has been relatively

no one could have imagined the value a chocolate bar would gain.

In the entrance, black smoke stains the wall. It is from a night I happened to be visiting Alma and Fritz during the winter. There was no running water and the residents heated a frozen fire hydrant and drained the water from it. Children, old people, young women—all were clustered around a small fire under the indoor hydrant, while the rest of the building was hidden in darkness.

Those were the days when the blackened stairs were covered with sheets of ice. Tenants carrying water to their flats would drip a little onto the stairs. The ice built up over the months, adding yet another danger to life in Sarajevo. Now, inside their flat, Alma explains that Fritz is driving a delivery van for a foreign

EYEWITNESS SARAJEVO



By Joel Brand

aid organization. We take off our shoes, the custom in many Bosnian homes. I recount a long-standing joke: never take off your shoes in Alma and Fritz's flat. In the winter the

stretches, sketched by destroyed lorries or concrete slabs. Local residents use safe corridors across the street where they cannot be spotted by Serb snipers as they set out to visit friends, collect wood, or go about their lives under siege.

Unarmoured cars, known as "soft", occasionally dash down the road, using speed as security where armoured vehicles use weight. But even travelling at great speed, there are wounded and killed. It is not just Sarajevans who have learned and adapted after 16-months of siege. The snipers are much better shots now.

The reason for going down Snipers' Alley this early afternoon, is to visit Alma and Fritz. They were hitch-hiking along the road one evening last winter and I gave them a ride. Hitch-hikers are common beside the road in many places of the city, now that there is no petrol and no public transportation.

Outside their block of flats in Alipasno Polje, in the western end of the city, children beg for chocolate. Before the war this would have been unimaginable, even in the poorest of areas, and this is a middle-class neighbourhood. But then

couple used to burn old shoes from a student dormitory in a makeshift stove to keep their room habitable.

B both are 25, engineering students who were just about to finish engineering school when the war began. Alma has continued her studies at home, but Fritz found a job so that they could buy food on the black market.

Alma explains that Fritz is healing well, but her sister's boyfriend is still in hospital, awaiting medical evacuation. He and Fritz were wounded a few days apart, last January. Fritz was almost killed by a mortar shell as he walked across the street between his flat and United Nations headquarters.

The sheet-plastic window to the apartment is open to the hot summer air. It is quiet outside. Almost no shelling for ten days now, but the crackle of rifles and machineguns can be heard about a mile away, on the front line.

Alma and her friend shrug and shake their heads when I ask them, about air strikes. They have given up on the West.

As I leave, I look out on the small balcony. I cannot see what I am looking for. There are no more shoes for next winter.

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Slovakia's dam on Danube blocks tide of Magyar unity

WATER splashes all over Istvan Majtenyi's garden as he carefully washes his latest crop of cucumbers. Until now the mostly ethnic Hungarian inhabitants of this Danube village feared the nearby hydro-electric dam would deprive them of their water supplies.

Wells dried up after the Danube was diverted a few miles away at Gabčíkovo, but now if anything there is too much water. The river flows through a nearby canal, its huge concrete flanks overshadowing this pastoral idyll. Some locals claim that water is already seeping from the canal banks and fear it may collapse, others complain they are virtually stranded by the river's new route.

"The whole village was against the dam. We are blocked off from the world now," said Mr Majtenyi, the

village's ethnic Hungarian mayor.

"Before we had to travel three kilometres to our neighbours, but now when the ferry is full we have to travel 50 kilometres. But we have learnt to live with it, because we don't have any other choice."

Either way, the recently completed dam project, Europe's last example of Stalinist-style engineering to control nature, has cast a dark shadow over relations between Hungary and neighbouring Slovakia, home to 600,000 ethnic Magyars. Most of them are concentrated near the Danube, which forms the border between the two countries.

As world attention has focused on the carnage in former Yugoslavia, the myriad simmering disputes over eastern Europe's minorities

In the first of a series of five articles on eastern Europe's minorities, Adam LeBar reports from the village of Dobrohost, southern Slovakia

have been almost ignored. Whether it is cultural rights for ethnic Hungarians, or pogroms against gypsies, none match the horrors of Croatia and Bosnia.

But from Bucharest to the Baltic, these disputes are further destabilising factors in a region whose southern half is already racked by war. Slovakia was furious at Hungary's recent attempt to delay its entry into the Council of Europe by citing discrimination against the ethnic Magyars there, although Budapest failed to use its veto and merely abstained in the

vote. After the collapse of communism, Hungary's new centre-right government stopped all work on the dam project, citing environmental reasons. But Slovakia carried on regardless, with many Slovak politicians claiming that Hungary's leaders still regarded the region as "Upper Hungary" and still secretly nurtured irredentist claims. Most of Slovakia was part of Hungary until the 1920 Treaty of Trianon, when Hungary lost about two-thirds of the territories it then held.

It was also forced to cede territory now in Yugoslavia, Croatia, Ukraine and Romania, leaving more than three million ethnic Hungarians stranded outside its truncated borders.

Budapest has repeatedly denied that it seeks any change of borders, but the atmosphere is still so charged that every announcement on the dam or the minorities question is viewed by many in Slovakia as Magyar meddling in affairs that no longer concern them.

Vladimir Meciar, the Slovak prime minister, has reportedly even described the country's ethnic Hungarians as a "fifth column", a change they fiercely deny. "We are Slovak citizens, we were born here and this is our home. We have political representation here and members of parliament," said Gabor Nagy,



president of the Movement for Political Co-existence in the Slovak border town of Komarno, where street signs are posted in both Magyar and Slovak and local radio broadcasts a daily programme in Hungarian. "We have emphasised several times we don't want to change the borders, we just want open borders."

But ethnic Hungarians say while personal relations with their Slovak neighbours are good, they still face political discrimination. "Town name signs are always in Slovak and when Hungarian ones are put up they are torn down," Mr Nagy said. However, new laws passed by the Slovak parliament will meet many of the ethnic Hungarian demands.

But memories are long

though in Mittel-Europa and probably the Slovaks are merely taking a leisurely revenge. Even today many elderly Slovaks remember with resentment being forced to learn and speak Hungarian by their Magyar overlords.

For when Budapest ruled the territories it lost at Trianon, it made sure to deny its minorities many of the cultural rights ethnic Hungarians now seek for themselves. Lajos Kossuth, the great Hungarian hero, was the architect of the 1844 language law making Magyar the only language of law and education.

Paradoxically, however, he was not even a proper Magyar. He was of Slovak origin, with a Slovak mother who never learnt Magyar.

Yeltsin intensifies power struggle with election ultimatum

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN IN MOSCOW

AS RUSSIA'S power struggle enters a new and possibly decisive phase, President Yeltsin announced yesterday that he is ready to dissolve parliament by decree if it refuses his demand for autumn elections. The parliament began its own autumn campaign when it gave initial approval to a constitutional amendment transferring control of the government from the president to parliament.

Mr Yeltsin told an audience of media chiefs that the "decisive political battle" will break out next month, and that early

elections are the only way out of the political deadlock. "If parliament does not take this decision, the president will take it for them," he said.

Mikhail Poltoranin, senior Yeltsin aide, told the press that the president may first call a referendum to seek popular support for dissolution and early elections. Russian Khasbulatov, the parliamentary chairman and leading Yeltsin opponent, has backed early elections in principle, but it is doubtful whether this was sincere: he has also insisted that they should be combined with an early presidential election.

Most deputies are believed to be anxious to delay elections until they fall due in 1995. They hope that a further increase in economic hardship will weaken Mr Yeltsin still further, and they fear that given the unpopularity of parliament, elections could mean the end of their political careers.

A dissolution by Mr Yeltsin would be illegal under Russia's present, Soviet constitution and would be resisted by parliament. Last December, parliament passed a law automatically transferring all power to Aleksandr Rutskoi, the conservative vice-president, in the event that Mr Yeltsin tried to dissolve parliament.

Mr Yeltsin's popularity has suffered as a result of last month's botched and brutal attempt at currency reform. For the first time, an independent opinion poll this week showed his rating dipping below that of Mr Rutskoi. In general, the Russian population is cynical and apathetic about the political process. The lack of mass involvement on the side of the hardline opposition was underlined by

a farmers' protest called by the opposition in Moscow yesterday. Very few genuine farmers were present, and the small crowd seemed to be overwhelmingly made up of the usual nationalist and communist stalwarts.

Whether Mr Yeltsin really could dissolve parliament and carry out elections might therefore depend less on the response of the people than on the support of the police and the armed forces. In recent weeks, Mr Yeltsin has dismissed the security minister, who heads the former KGB, and he is believed to have forced out Marshal Yevgeni Shaposhnikov, the secretary of the national security council. It is doubtful how far these moves will really strengthen the president's position.

The other critical force in the struggle will be the leaders of Russia's regions and autonomous republics. In a fresh attempt to woo their support, Mr Yeltsin left Moscow yesterday for the autonomous republic of Karelia, on the border with Finland, where the council of republican leaders is meeting today.

The president said on his departure that he was going to try to convince republican leaders to accept equal status with the Russian regions, several of which have themselves declared their sovereignty. Mr Yeltsin denied that this stress on sovereignty will threaten Russian unity. "They will outgrow it and everything will return to normal."

In advance of the meeting, several republic heads have criticised the failure to make progress on formulating the details of the federal treaty defining the status of the central institutions, republics and regions.



Putting their heads together: President Yeltsin discusses strategy with his aide, Mikhail Poltoranin yesterday at a Moscow news conference

Bungled ambush puts squad in firing line

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BERLIN

TWO officers from Germany's GSG9 anti-terrorist squad are being investigated under suspicion of "culpable manslaughter" for their involvement in the death of an alleged fugitive member of the Red Army Faction during a bungled ambush in Bad Kleinen, in eastern Germany.

In June, two suspected terrorists from the faction — the successor group to the Baader Meinhof gang — were lured into a meeting at a railway station café by a police agent posing as one of their clandestine cell. After they left they were surrounded by the GSG9 troopers. A woman was arrested, while Wolfgang Grams sprinted on to a plat-

form and exchanged fire with the police. Later an autopsy revealed that Grams had been shot at point-blank range.

At first two theories were advanced to explain this wound: that Grams had committed suicide on the platform, or that he had rolled awkwardly and shot himself by accident. Investigation showed that the gun was next to his left hand and that his right hand was behind his back. Grams was right-handed. It is possible that one of the officers panicked and shot Grams in the head.

The opening of a formal enquiry against the two officers, which falls short of pressing charges, became necessary after officials identified the policemen mentioned in a complaint filed by Grams's

parents. The prosecutor's office called the move a technicality. The statement said this did not imply evidence against the officers had accumulated or that Grams had been shot deliberately, either by someone else or in a suicide.

The prosecutor admits that there have been serious contradictions in the testimony of the GSG9 and that at least one officer has lied. The charge of "culpable manslaughter" is specific to German law, a category somewhere between accidental killing and premeditated murder.

The case has already claimed two senior political victims: Rudolf Seiters, the interior minister, and Alexander von Stahl, the prosecutor general, have both resigned. The police ambush must

rank as one of the most mismanaged in Germany's 20-year battle against left-wing terrorism. The agent who led the suspected terrorists into the trap was apparently not aware that they were to be arrested: he had been fired with a tape recorder and was told that his purpose was to relay information to a police listening post about the plans of the Red Army Faction. After the ambush the agent was not arrested but flown to the United States and given a new identity: the police had thus

exposed one of their key informants. Also, the station was crowded, the order to shoot was not given clearly, about 30 rounds were fired before Grams was hit and medical support took a long time to arrive.

The scandal may yet claim another victim — the GSG9. Helmut Kohl, the chancellor, has publicly reassured the unit that it is doing a good job. But, plainly, if it is found that members of the squad shot to kill there will have to be an overhaul of the unit.



A peasant selling fruit as farmers protested

NEWS IN BRIEF

Czech pair had throats cut in Paris

Paris: A Czech couple were found with their throats slit in a square in northern Paris early yesterday. Pavel Zivok, 21, from Zluzice, and his girlfriend, Zita Lavruva, 20, from Slavkov, were discovered lying dead in their sleeping bags next to a lean-to by a park keeper.

Police said they had no clues as to the motive of the murders. The girl was naked and her sleeping bag had been slashed, but it had not been established whether she had been raped. The pair had been hitch-hiking. (AFP)

Death plunge

Rome: Giuseppe Magro, 62, a Sicilian businessman under investigation in Italy's huge corruption scandal, threw himself to his death, the 11th suspect to take his own life. (Reuters)

Nigeria protest

Lagos: A mass stay-at-home protest against military rule crippled Nigeria's biggest city, Lagos, but seemed to have no effect in the inland capital, Abuja. (Reuters)

Launch delay

Cape Canaveral: The launch of the space shuttle Discovery was aborted three seconds before lift-off because of a fuel flow problem. (AFP)

Fishing for compliments and submarines off Sweden

FROM NICHOLAS GEORGE IN STOCKHOLM

SWEDEN is proud of its success in fishing. Some Swedes search for the tasty fresh fish of the rivers and Baltic sea, while others hunt for submarines.

Yesterday on the second day of John Major's visit to the country, he was able to examine both kinds — with different levels of success. On the island of Moja in the Stockholm archipelago, where the abhorred fish is plentiful, he and Norma were treated to the local delicacy caught by Ruse Wikstrom and cooked by his wife, Ingvald. The meal was served with potatoes and onions.

In the afternoon the Majors joined the Swedish navy which regularly fishes for Russian submarines, and which some naval officers claimed were almost as abundant as the abhorred fish in Swedish waters. They caught nothing.

Of course, you can't really blame Mr Major. At least 40 per cent of the Swedish navy has been searching for Russian submarines for years and they haven't caught one yet. There was the case of the vessel which ran aground off the Swedish coast in 1981 but that does not count.

At least the Swedish naval vessel Mr Major was on board stayed upright. Earlier in the day he and Norma had visited the Vasa, a 17th-century flagship of the Swedish fleet which sank a few hun-

dred yards on its maiden voyage, and has been preserved in a museum like the Mary Rose.

Away from the military hardware, it was, however, to be a day outdoors for the Majors. Unfortunately, for much of the day it was wet, cold and damp.

The prime minister and his Swedish counterpart, Carl Bildt, accompanied by their wives, arrived on Moja by helicopter, despite the craft tearing the awning off a restaurant as it took off in Stockholm. Nobody was injured in the accident, which occurred after their visit to the island of Djurgården and the Vasa.

They proceeded to Moja, three and a half hours away,

for lunch. The island is full of the traditional red wooden houses perched on granite outcrops. Mr Wikstrom's restaurant, in woods a few hundred yards from the island's harbour, is a simple outdoor affair. They dined under plastic sheeting to protect them from the rain.

Despite the rain the informality of the day suited both the Majors and their hosts. Mr Bildt and wife Mia. The serious discussions on Yugoslavia and Sweden's membership of the European Community, which it hopes to join by 1995, were saved for the evening. On Moja at least, Mr Major and Mr Bildt were happy to talk about how well they got on. Perhaps they were fishing for compliments.



Brolly day: John and Norma Major being shown the sights by Carl Bildt, the Swedish prime minister

Basques wage battle of the bows to defeat terror attacks by Eta

FROM EDWARD OWEN IN MADRID

FOR the first time since Eta, the Basque homeland and freedom organisation, was formed 34 years ago, Basque separatists have not been seen separating the annual fiesta in San Sebastian. Residents of the city have finally decided to show their true colours, and so far the "Blues" against terrorism easily outnumber the pro-Eta "Greens" in what is being called the battle of the bows.

Thousands of Basque revelers are wearing blue ribbons distributed by the city hall in protest against the kidnapping by Eta a month ago of Julio Iglesias Zamora, 42, an engineer. It is the biggest demonstration of disapproval of Eta violence, which has claimed more lives in the resort than in any other part of Spain.

Each ribbon is fashioned into an A for *askatasuna*, the Basque word for freedom, in a concerted call for the release of the kidnapping victim. "This does Eta damage. This has been the biggest mobilisation after any Eta kidnapping and it is very important for the fight against terrorism," a spokesman for the interior ministry said.

streets have witnessed fights started by Basque separatists wearing green bows who have set upon those wearing blue. "There are not many wearing green but there have been some incidents. There is an undercurrent of tension," a police spokesman said.

Open-air bars, or *baznas*, run by Basque radical parties such as Herri Batasuna, Eta's political wing, who sport green bows and also stickers saying "Julio, Ordaindu!!" (Julio, Pay Up!!) have been boycotted by the blues. José Antonio Aguiriano, Madrid's local administrator, has said that any individual wearing the green bow or showing the stickers will be arrested. He has also ordered police to arrest any radical found putting up a poster depicting José Maria Añutxa, the regional security chief, in a telescopic sight with the threat: "Traitor. Your days are numbered."

Last week Señor Añutxa boasted on television that his Basque police force had smashed an Eta fundraising gang that had hoped to raise £5 million by extorting a "revolutionary tax" from local businessmen.

Since Eta became a self-styled "clandestine revolutionary organisation", 544 *etarras* have been detained while 200 have been killed. Eta has claimed 714 victims.

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Migrants grab art 'rebate'

FROM JAMES P. HANCOCK IN NEW YORK

THREE experienced artists are going to sue a San Francisco art dealer for failing to return a \$100,000 rebate. The artists, who were part of a project called "Artists' Rights" set up by the dealer, claimed that the dealer had failed to return the rebate. The artists are suing the dealer for the amount of the rebate. The dealer has denied the claim. The case is currently in court.

Clinton choice of top soldier points to strategic shift

FROM WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU
IN WASHINGTON

THE nomination of General John Malchase David Shalikashvili as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff has been one of President Clinton's most intriguing appointments. In General "Shali", as he called him, the president picked a man who could hardly differ more from General Colin Powell, the present chairman who retires next month, in terms of personal background, character and, most important, in his military outlook.

As the supreme commander of Nato, General Shalikashvili was the personal choice of Les Aspin, the defence secretary, who introduced him as a man who "talks a little funny", in reference to his slight, but noticeable, Polish accent. Mr Clinton called him "a soldier's soldier".

General Shalikashvili was born in Warsaw in 1936, the son of a Georgian officer and grandson of a tsarist general. Aged eight, with the second world war in its final stages, he fled from advancing Soviet troops to Germany in a cattle car, and stayed there for eight years before settling in Illinois eight years later. Fluent in German as well as his native Polish, "Shali" learned his English from John Wayne films, although in his personal demeanour he could hardly differ more from the actor.

■ A Warsaw-born general with a knowledge of Europe is to head the Joint Chiefs of Staff. His appointment may signal a change in Pentagon doctrine

Friends have characterised him as "not a self-promoting guy", a rarity in the American military.

General Shalikashvili is the kind of soldier with whom a president without military background can feel comfortable. Mr Clinton clearly hopes to have found an ally in his attempts to persuade the American military, whose technological sophistication is only surpassed by its social backwardness, to accept the American dream of equal opportunities, whether for homosexuals or for women.

In strategic terms, the significance of General Shalikashvili's appointment lies in his understanding of Europe. His knowledge could prove most valuable in a country whose ability to fight big wars vastly exceeds its ability to engage in messy regional conflicts.

With this, the speculation in Washington goes, may come a shift in military strategy, perhaps a shift away from General Powell's doctrine of "decisive force", which confines American military intervention to conflicts where America can also determine

the subsequent political outcome. That could not have been the case in Bosnia.

General Shalikashvili, while not a rampant military interventionist, would have given the president the option to intervene if he wanted, although he also remained cautious about bombing in Bosnia, and still hopes that the situation can be resolved without military force.

Given the current thrust of American military policy towards multilateralism and the increased willingness to submit power and responsibility to the United Nations, one of the new chairman's key tasks will lie in ensuring co-operation with America's Nato allies. It will also be particularly useful to have a European expert at the helm of the American military when Nato may be undergoing profound changes. It may widen its remit to include nations from other regions, such as eastern Europe.

His rise through the military ranks, starting in 1958 when he was drafted as a "back" private, amounts to a quintessential American career. Or as Mr Clinton put it: "Only in America."

In 1959, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant of artillery after graduating from officer candidate school in Oklahoma, and then rose through the ranks. By the time of the Vietnam war, he had become a major.

At the end of the Gulf War he was put in charge of Operation Provide Comfort, which was to provide humanitarian help to Kurds, who needed protection from President Saddam Hussein of Iraq. Unlike General Powell, who is believed to harbour political ambitions, General Shalikashvili could not run for the presidency at the end of his two-year stint as chairman of the joint chiefs of staff. The American constitution bars first-generation immigrants from the presidency.



Shalikashvili: hailed as a soldier's soldier

Marine Corps shot in foot by general

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

THE US Marine Corps' hunt for single soldiers must rank as the shortest recruiting campaign ever.

In a highly embarrassing U-turn, instigated by President Clinton, the marines were forced to countermand an order banning enlistment of married recruits only six hours after it was made public. Mr Clinton had known nothing of the edict in advance and was astonished when he heard about it. White House officials called Les Aspin, the defence secretary, and found he had also been caught unawares. Mr Aspin hurried back to the Pentagon and promptly rescinded the order.

General Carl Mundy, the Marines' commandant, issued his singles-only edict out of concern that the stress of married life on Marines was curbing the effectiveness of the Corps. His failure to foresee the political firestorm was another example of the armed forces being out of step with civilian attitudes.

Just on the issue of discrimination, the order meant that the marines would have been in the preposterous position of turning away heterosexuals while being allowed to recruit homosexuals under Mr Clinton's new decree allowing

closed gays in the military. Pat Schroeder, a Congresswoman and advocate of help for military families, said she was outraged. "If they're not allowed to be homosexual and they're not allowed to be married," she asked, "what are they supposed to do, take cold showers?" General Mundy, who was unavailable for comment yesterday, said before his order was reversed that 40 per cent of young marines on their first tour of duty were married but only 10 per cent re-enlisted. He said the impact of failing marriages often reduced the military performance of individuals and forced commanding officers to intervene to try to resolve family issues. "This has become an all too familiar pattern of events and is unlikely to improve," said the general, who forecast that marines would be sent increasingly to trouble spots overseas.

The general had also ordered that first-term Marines attend classes on the advantages of delaying marriage. Marines wanting to marry would have to talk to their commanding officers first, although they would not need permission.

Migrants grab art 'rebate'

FROM JAMES BONE
IN NEW YORK

THREE experimental artists are giving away \$10 (£6.80) bills on the hills of Encinitas, California, just north of the Mexican border, as part of a project called "Arte Reembolso/Art Rebate" designed to highlight the contribution made by illegal immigrants to the economy.

The befuddled immigrants are quickly spending the hand-outs at a nearby food stall before returning their effort to elude immigration officers. The "art rebate" project is intended to counter a surge in anti-immigrant feeling in economically depressed southern California which has prompted leading politicians in the area to visit the border to call for greater controls on illegal immigration.

The artists — David Avalos, Louis Hock, and Elizabeth Sisco — received a \$5,000 grant for the project from the Museum of Contemporary Art in San Diego and they are giving all but \$300 away. The museum, in turn, is receiving some funding for the project from the National Endowment of the Arts, the American equivalent of the Arts Council. "I can scarcely imagine a more contemptuous use of taxpayers' hard-earned dollars," Randy Cunningham, a Republican San Diego congressman wrote in a letter of protest to the organisation.

PLO heals the rift between Arafat and peace negotiators

FROM REUTER IN TUNIS

THE executive committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation yesterday rejected the resignations of three Palestinian peace negotiators, signalling the end of a week-long crisis over Yasser Arafat's management of talks with Israel.

It also agreed measures to improve co-ordination between the negotiators in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and the PLO leadership outside — the issue that provoked the resignations of Faisal Husseini, Hanan Ashrawi and Saeb Erekat last week.

The executive committee studied the work and role of the Palestinian delegation and decided to reject the resignation request submitted by three members of the delegation, a statement issued by Wafa, the PLO news agency, said.

"The executive committee took a number of organisational decisions to improve and strengthen the role of the Palestinian delegation and its capacity to carry out its national task of defending our people's rights and great aims."

Before the meeting a senior PLO official said that Mr Husseini, co-ordinator of the peace delegation, and Haidar Abdel-Shafi, the chief negotiator, might join a PLO committee chaired by Mr Arafat that directs the Palestinian negotiating strategy. Israel would

once have refused to negotiate with any Palestinian belonging to a PLO committee. This year, however, Israeli politicians, including a cabinet minister, have held an increasingly open dialogue with the people they once dismissed as terrorists.

The three negotiators submitted their resignations after Mr Arafat, the PLO's veteran chairman, ordered them to give Warren Christopher, the US Secretary of State, a draft paper about Palestinian self-rule on which they had not been fully consulted.

The dispute brought to a head months of tensions among Palestinians involved in the peace process. Mr Arafat had to argue all night in April to make the negotiators resume the peace talks, which had been in suspension since Israel deported 415 Palestinians to southern Lebanon last December.

Mr Erekat, one of the younger members of the peace team, stormed out of that session saying he was going to resign and write his memoirs. Palestinians say Mr Arafat told him affectionately: "That will only take you half an hour — what will you do after that?" Mr Erekat stayed.

The argument about organisation is entangled with an even more difficult debate about strategy in the peace talks, which have dragged on for 21 months without produc-

De Klerk challenged over promise to Natal whites

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN AMANZIMTOTI, NATAL

GEORGE Bartlett, South Africa's minister for mines and energy and the leader of the National Party in Natal, yesterday metaphorically drew a line in the sand with his toe, and gave notice to President de Klerk that it must not be crossed by the negotiators trying to draw up a new non-racial constitution.

Mr Bartlett, a compact, combative grey-haired man, the only English-speaking elected MP in the cabinet, seized on a remark made by Mr de Klerk the day before, when he promised that Natal would be able to write its own constitution in a new federal state. Mr Bartlett referred to the promise twice while addressing the annual congress

of his party. To loud applause he said: "We will accept nothing less than the Natal/KwaZulu region being a federal state or province within a united federal republic of South Africa." He added that each state in the federation must have its own constitution and insisted: "We in the National Party believe that our region's constitution must be negotiated by all Natalians and Zulus, and the sooner this is done the better."

As if to dramatise his warning, Mr Bartlett indicated that the threat of mass defections from the National Party in Natal to the mainly-Zulu Inkatha Freedom Party should not be disregarded.

A non-partisan observer

said that Mr Bartlett's speech could have been made by Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, the Inkatha leader and chief minister of the self-governing black homeland, KwaZulu, which falls within Natal's borders. Both are pressing for similar things, a federal state and a constitution for Natal drawn up by Natalians.

The Nationalists in Natal have been shaken by defections to Inkatha. Several white politicians feel comfortable with the kind of anti-ANC line promoted by Chief Buthelezi, and would not wish him to be trampled by an alliance of Nationalists and the African National Congress.

Photograph, page 18

US troops kill three Somali protesters

FROM REUTER IN MOGADISHU

AMERICAN troops shot and wounded at least three Somali men yesterday when they fired on a crowd of about 3,000 Somalis demonstrating against the United Nations presence here.

The troops, on patrol in three "Humvee" armoured vehicles, had driven into the crowd, which began hurling stones at them. The Americans, part of the UN contingent of the UN force in Somalia, opened fire and minutes later

UN helicopters swooped to disperse the crowd.

"See what the Americans have done?" said Abdi Abshir, an aide to Muhammad Farrah Aidid, the fugitive warlord. "It was obvious provocation. It was only a peaceful demonstration." The dusty streets of the Somali capital have been tense since last Sunday, when gunmen ambushed an American military convoy and killed four soldiers.



Lord of the dance: the Pope watching a performance by Mayan dancers after meeting Indians in the state of Mérida, southeast Mexico

Young pilgrims throng to Pope's tour party

FROM BEN MACINTYRE
IN DENVER, COLORADO

WITH an estimated half a million people pouring in to Denver to greet the Pope on his arrival in America yesterday, this Rocky mountain city has been transformed, in a matter of days, into one vast outdoor prayer meeting cum teenage party.

Every hour more young pilgrims arrive, by plane, train, bus, car, bicycle and even on foot, from at least 70 countries and all over America. Roman Catholic youth — excited, courteous and wearing foam plastic mitres — is

roaming the city's streets in packs, singing, praying and emitting that screaming noise which occurs whenever three or more teenagers are gathered together. More than 150,000 youths from around the world jammed into Denver for the opening Mass of World Youth Day.

Local hotels have been booked up for months, and many of the new arrivals have been packed into sprawling tent cities, municipal cattle pens or underground car parks, while the authorities struggle to accommodate the largest human influx in the city's history.

Ski slopes have been transformed into picnic areas. 200 National Guard troops are patrolling parks and military helicopters are standing by to fly any casualties out of the intense heat. The police have even set up a mobile detention centre in case the excitement gets out of hand. "I think they're forgetting this is a religious event, and the fact that this is a religious event will determine the tone," says Sister Mary Ann Walsh, one of the Youth Day organisers.

The four-day celebration started with the Mass in eight languages, preceded by an African drum performance, a

Vietnamese kite-flying exhibition and a concert by Wynonna Judd, a country and western singer.

The sheer scale of what the local police call the "Holy Invasion" has left many inhabitants stunned and, a few, resentful. Catholics make up just 14 per cent of Colorado's population and while local retailers and souvenir salesmen are delighted to see the city's population double, a few locals are noticeably less enthusiastic.

On the main shopping street, one resident stared with bafflement at a sign translated into Italian before stomping off angrily.

Where the Pope goes, protest follows. The Denver Chapter of Dignity, a gay Catholic organisation, is planning to hold a prayer-protest on Sunday, feminist Catholics, following Martin Luther's methods, have vowed to nail their demands for ordination to the doors of Denver's churches.

The main public event will take place on Sunday, when the Pope holds an open-air mass in Cherry Creek Park, which up to half a million people are expected to attend.

Leading article and Letters, page 13

Teenager charged with murder of boy

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

A TEENAGER has been charged in upstate New York with murdering a four-year-old boy in a case reminiscent of the killing of Jamie Bulger in Warrington last February.

Eric Smith, 13, of Savona, was brought into the crowded courtroom in handcuffs. The red-haired youth with wire-rim glasses said nothing during his brief appearance. No hearing date has been set.

Derrick Robie went missing on August 2 while on his way to a play school just 150 yards from his home in the village of Savona. After a four-hour search, his battered body was found in trees at the back of houses along his route to school. Police said he had been killed by blows to the head

with a blunt instrument and had also suffered chest wounds. The local newspaper reported that the boy might have been sexually abused.

The murder stunned the quiet middle-class community, about 60 miles southeast of Rochester. Police interviewed everybody in the village. Then one local family turned in their son, saying he had not been truthful with police.

Eric Smith lived on the other side of the village from Robie, in a shabby neighbourhood, with his mother, step-father, sister and step-sister. Neighbours described him as an apparently harmless prankster. He will be tried as an adult, but sentenced as a juvenile. If convicted, he faces between nine years and life imprisonment.

"It is now time for us to start over," said Robie's mother, Doreen, who also has an 18-month-old toddler. "We will stay in this community, but not on this street."

"Derrick was a people person," Dale Robie said of his son. "He lived every moment."

At a prayer service on Wednesday night, the Rev Frank Edmunds described Robie, who lived with his family in the church rectory, as a "fireball". He said: "I will miss the pounding of his feet up and down the hallway near my office." The service was held at the school where Robie would have entered kindergarten this autumn.



Smith: "prankster" who will be tried as adult



Another style essential of the 1980s is in decline, under attack from the good old-fashioned pub

Are wine bars forever in a time warp?

Susan leaps out of her red Mercedes convertible in a crisp white shirt, navy Chanel suit, her waxed legs gleaming under £40 silk Fogal tights. Turning on the hazard lights, she pauses only momentarily, her Salvatore Ferragamo heel caught in some chewing gum, before she rushes into the wine bar. "Ghastly day Daarling, light me a cigarette will you?" she screeches as she forces her shoulderpads through the pin-stripes. Grant switches off his mobile phone and extends his Zippo lighter towards her blood-red lips. His squash racket gets tangled with the gilt chain of her suede Frada bag but he doesn't care, as he has made £10K today and is already onto his second bottle of Louis Roederer Cristal.

Remember the 1980s? Sharp of suit, red of braces, and early of alarm call? Half of it was complete

fantasy. We might have heard of a friend of a girlfriend's brother who was earning £100,000 while still young enough to have bumfluff and acne, but most of us never traded up on the clapped-out Volvo. Instead we just picked up on the accessories: a Filofax, croissants for breakfast, a mortgage, lemon presses, barking bunny boxer shorts and the wine bar.

The wine bar was one of the great success stories of the 1980s, as well as one of its few civilised products. Everyone was suddenly sick of being confronted by pickled eggs, flaccid quiche and lasagne bubbling to death under sweaty lights. They did not want to walk into a pub with smoked-stained

ceilings, sticky plastic seats and dog hairs stuck all over lurid patterned carpets. They no longer felt satisfied with luke-warm lager and a packet of peanuts. Pubs were no longer quaint unless you were a naive Japanese tourist. The British wanted international style: bottled beer from Mexico with bits of lime stuck in the neck, salade niçoise, toothpicks, garlic mushrooms and green cocktails. So Le Wine Bar was born.

The woman's editor of *The Daily Mail* writing in 1981 explained, "Wine bars are the coffee shops of the 1980s. They are not a place where the cognoscenti debate the rival merits of Beaujolais Nouveau and Beaujolais Primeur.



ALICE THOMSON

It is simply a place where boy can meet girl. OK the Liebraumilch is of uncertain origin and it costs too much. But not many people these days want to drink themselves into oblivion. We go to the place for gossip, imbuendo and to see who

else is there. What more can a working girl want?

And in 1980, *The Times* summed up why most women hated pubs when it reported the case of Harold Williams, the pubman of the Maltsters Arms. "Mr Williams told the court he did not consider it ladylike for women to drink pints in his lounge and said if they wanted to drink like men they should go to the public bar or skittle alley."

By the end of the 1980s, there was Chablis and Rioja and we had begun to acquire a taste for more exotic dishes, such as couscous and frogs' legs. There were fruit soaps and flavoured condoms in the loos. Even crisps surpassed themselves

in their efforts to disguise their humble origins.

Then, with recession, came cooing: those blackboard menus and pink tablecloths were suddenly redundant. Staying at home was the game. We ate TV dinners, fed each other Haagen Daas ice cream and cuddled up with the babies in our pyjamas. Wine bars began to look frayed and pubs were struggling with the drink driving laws.

Now a Mintel survey tells us that Britain's 1,150 wine bars may become as dated as wine boxes. High interest rates, over-priced wine and lacklustre food has meant the British are heading back through saloon doors.

Caroline Stacey, the food editor of *Time Out*, blames it on the pubs. "Pubs have started to compete. I can't remember the last time I had a soggy sausage roll at one. Loads have wine lists and girls feel really relaxed." Even grimy pubs have been welcomed back with open arms. They blend so well with this summer's look, of the holey T-shirts, the laddered thighs and greasy hair. And what of the poor wine bar? "It was always a bit of a hybrid. You never knew if you were going to eat or drink. Brasseries and cafés are more lively."

I am afraid I am an undignified hybrid. I occasionally yearn for red braces and cannot quite bring myself to order a spritzer in a pub. But if someone asked me for a date in a wine bar, I would wince. I threw my shoulder pads out years ago.

The jackal of La Penca is named

For nine years Douglas Vaughan followed the trail of a mysterious assassin from London to South America. Now, despite the indifference of diplomats and the hostility of the CIA, he can reveal the killer's identity

My telephone rang. More bad news: a bomb had exploded at a press conference: three reporters were dead, two dozen were injured. That was May 30, 1984. Posing as a photographer, the bomber had planted an explosive at the jungle outpost of La Penca, Costa Rica. The target, Contra leader Eden Pastora, survived.

The bomber, who feigned injury, was evacuated with his victims, and disappeared the next day. He had used a forged Danish passport in the name of Per Anker Hansen. Despite being photographed before and after the bombing, his identity remained a mystery. Suspects were legion. Pastora had Sandinista enemies on the left, rival Contras backed by the CIA on the right. In the face of indifference by Costa Rican authorities and outright hostility from America, journalists were left to their own enquiries.

La Penca took on a significance far beyond the number of casualties. The search for the bomber would yield two films and several books (one of each by former *Times* correspondent and bomb victim, Susie Morgan). It also brought phoney evidence, sophisticated cover-ups, and more theories than facts. The few facts available pointed to Washington.

The first serious work was done by Tony Avirgan, an American cameraman wounded at La Penca, and his wife, Martha Honey, a BBC correspondent in Costa Rica. They uncovered a Contra network run by Colonel Oliver North and revealed CIA subversion of local police and judiciary. When they blamed the CIA for La Penca, the American am-

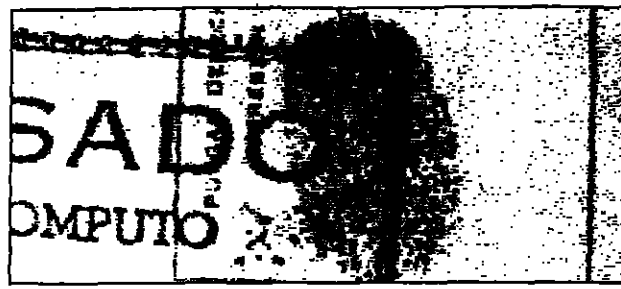
bassador called them "traitors".

In 1986, as the Iran-Contra scandal unfolded, the couple brought a lawsuit against 28 people linked to Colonel North. The case was dismissed — the weak link was lack of an identity for the bomber.

In 1989, I called Avirgan and Honey, who suggested that I take on the case. For the next three years I retraced the bomber's footsteps. Meanwhile, American intelligence sources planted a series of stories purporting to identify the bomber as: a former Tupamaro guerrilla from Uruguay, a Baader-Meinhof member from Germany, a Libyan working for Gaddafi, a Venezuelan leftist, a Dane working with Palestinians (and a Palestinian working with Danes). All were demonstrably false.

The investigation took me to the Contra haunts in Miami. A one-time gunrunner said the bomber was an old pal, still available for the occasional contract murder. He was too dark, too old. A chat with an imprisoned Cuban bomb-maker in Memphis allowed me to make a pilgrimage to Graceland, also fruitless. In Mexico, a colleague and I tracked down a colonel, recently retired from the local death squad, who led us to a man who resembled the bomber. He was too short, too Canadian.

In Panama, I stayed in the same hotel room as the bomber had in 1982. Posing as Per Anker Hansen, he had bought a truck from an American CIA attached to an intelligence unit, then sold it to an Israeli company tied to a notorious Mossad agent. A single document survived, under the



The hunter and his quarry: Douglas Vaughan (left) was relentless in his pursuit of the assassin Vital Roberto Gaguine (alias Per Anker Hansen)

name Anker. Later, in the wake of the US invasion, I found his only known fingerprint, and a photograph taken in 1982.

I determined to take a fresh look at statements from the La Penca victims about the man they knew as Hansen. It bothered me that this "Danish photographer" had so easily been accepted into the crew of a Swedish film maker, despite the odd fact that the Dane didn't speak Danish and was fluent in English and Spanish.

I located the Swede, Peter Torbjornsson, in Brittany, and we agreed to meet in Miami in June 1991. There, in an anguished confession, he said he had concealed evidence for seven years. He had met the "Dane" in Managua a month before the bombing in the company of a Sandinista official, whom he later learnt was

a legendary Cuban intelligence officer known as Renan Montero. When the bomber arrived in Costa Rica in search of "an interview with Pastora", Torbjornsson allowed himself to be used in a plot which nearly cost the film maker his own life.

Now, I wanted to kill Torbjornsson myself. "I was confused and scared," he explained, "and I couldn't believe the Sandinistas would do such a thing." Neither could I.

In Managua, top Sandinistas denied any involvement. But all said I had to speak to Tomas Borge, the former minister of the interior. I confronted him with evidence that La Penca was a Sandinista hit. "If we wanted to kill Pastora, we could have, anytime, without

innocent victims. But a bombing, that was not our method." An operation gone awry? Or a renegade job?

"What we called our Fifth Directorate," Borge acknowledged, "was run by Renan Montero. He is a man of many mysteries, a man with ten thousand secrets." What, then, of the Swedish film maker's claim to have met the bomber with Renan before La Penca?

"Speaking strictly from an operational, not a moral perspective," Borge said, "it is inconceivable that Renan would be seen in public with someone he planned to use. If Renan had been responsible, Pastora would not have escaped."

Borge said he wanted to help. He gave me a letter which, translated, says: "Douglas Vaughan, journalist, is investigating the events

of La Penca. I believe in his honesty. I hope that those persons who can provide information will help him." Borge said he would try to locate Renan and put us in touch.

That was a year ago. I haven't heard from Borge. Nor Renan. But I managed to identify the bomber anyway. His real name is Vital Roberto Gaguine.

The trail began when a colleague, Juan Tamayo of the *Miami Herald*, showed photographs of the bomber to a former Argentine guerrilla who recognised him as former comrade, Martin "El Ingles" (the Englishman), who worked with a secret unit of Sandinista intelligence in the early 1980s, and died in an attack on a military base at La Tablada near Buenos Aires in 1989.

Over the past two months, seven people have confirmed this account to two fellow investigators in Argentina, Julio Villalonga and Juan Salinas. They narrowed a list of casualties to Gaguine, whom witnesses knew as Martin "El Ingles". Gaguine's charred remains were identified from dental records. Fingerprints taken in 1972 were dispatched to Miami. Last week, an expert matched

Gaguine's thumbprint to the one I found in Panama in the name of Hansen.

Gaguine fled Argentina in 1978 to London, where he told immigration officials he would attend the Shakespeare School of English in Holborn. He earned the disparaging nickname "El Lord" for affecting an English accent and smoking a pipe. He applied for asylum but left for Nicaragua after the Sandinista triumph of July 1979. By then, a group of Argentine guerrillas, led by Enrique Gorriaran and including Gaguine's brother-in-law, had gone to work under Renan Montero.

As Borge said, Renan was responsible for counter-intelligence. What Borge failed to mention was that Gorriaran's men were Renan's strike force. They called themselves "the Nucleus of Steel" and carried out the assassination of a Contra leader in Honduras and the exiled dictator, Somoza, in Paraguay in 1980.

We know Gaguine was in Panama with the Hansen passport in 1982. From there he went to Brazil, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela, Amsterdam, back to Panama, Honduras and Costa Rica. So say the immigration records, but they don't tell us what he was doing. In March 1984, Gaguine was introduced to Torbjornsson in Managua. Soon after, using the Hansen passport, Gaguine joined Torbjornsson's film crew in Costa Rica and set off to "interview" Pastora. Gaguine carried a metal camera case, which he never allowed the others to handle. On May 30, Gaguine joined the press corps on the trip to La Penca. Moments after Pastora began speaking, the camera case exploded at his feet.

Last week, I showed Gaguine's brother and father in Miami previously unpublished photos of the bomber. "Yes, that's him," said his brother Eduardo.

They were shocked when I laid out the details. "I don't understand," Eduardo said. "To kill soldiers in a battle is one thing. But innocent reporters, that is terrorism, that's not the brother I knew."

Why Hollywood's stars turn to hookers

Tinseltown's Pretty Women feed the egos of the men with everything

ONE evening a few weeks ago, I stepped inside a marble-floored hair salon on Sunset Plaza Drive to buy some shampoo. Standing by the counter was a striking and beautifully made-up 6ft ice-cream blonde in a short skirt and knee-high suede boots. She was about 26. She paid for her \$130 designer crimp in cash — neatly peeling off two bills from a wodge of crisp \$100 notes as casually as if they were raffle tickets. As she glided out of the salon into her white BMW 525i convertible, the middle-aged woman behind the till winced, and then turned to me. "You can always tell the difference between the Beverly Hills call-girls and the cheap hookers on the Strip," she sniffed. "The call-girls get paid by the thousand. Ten hundred-dollar bills stapled together."

A professional trade-mark of the alleged Hollywood madame Heidi Fleiss is that she reportedly used a golden stapler. What distinguished her exclusive stable of young girls from the regular Beverly Hills call-girls, apart from the staples holding together their \$100 bills, was that they seemed so like any other beautiful LA party girls — with the all-important difference that, with them, you avoided the awkward possibility of being turned down.

"It's not like New York, where the hookers are on a time-clock," Ms Fleiss's former boy friend, the film

producer Ivan Nagy (also now arrested), said last week. "It's like a date with sure sex at the end."

Media interest in Heidi Fleiss's illicit activities is intense — particularly in relation to the legion of "A" list Hollywood clients scribbled in her "black book", a copy of which is in the possession of the Los Angeles police. The very existence of such a list begs a question. Namely, if you are an international superstar and supposed sex symbol, with, say, your own private jet, houses around the world, an earning capacity of over \$10 million a film and thousands of women writing to you to say that they want to sleep with you (photo enclosed), why would you wish to pay \$1,500 to have sex with a prostitute?

While the papers and magazines in America have been bursting with articles, many have been naive and myopic about the reasons for the booming up-market prostitution rings in Los Angeles.

To grasp why 27-year-old Heidi Fleiss, the daughter of an LA doctor,



Vice girl: Julia Roberts, a prostitute in *Pretty Woman*

owns a \$1 million mansion, drives a new Range Rover with smoked glass windows and used to throw Bacchic parties attended by the likes of Jack Nicholson, Mick Jagger, Billy Idol and Oliver Stone, along with the "A" list of agents, industry executives and studio moguls, you have to understand the Hollywood mentality. It is a green-eyed monster

that feeds off vanity and greed, along with a Caligula-like lust for power.

The Fleiss case destroys the idea that a perk of being rich and famous is to pull any woman you want. In fact, most actors cannot. This is chiefly because, in close-knit Hollywood, everyone knows that certain "stars" are lascivious and insecure egomaniacs whose lust for self-assertion is manifested by the instant gratification of desire.

If you read a thousand times that you are a sex symbol, you may start to believe it — with the consequence that some stars become incapable of having normal relationships with women. As their swollen egos cannot handle the idea of rejection, paying beautiful young girls for sex is turned into a boys' club status competition.

As Jackie Collins, whose work-in-progress, *Hollywood Kids*, happens to include a Hollywood madame, puts it: "Men in 'El-Lay' have to satisfy their egos. The whole time. And they have to think they are getting the best. They want to pay a lot because it makes them feel better. Just like the studios pay big bucks for big stars. Paying for sex is a vicious thrill. It's a

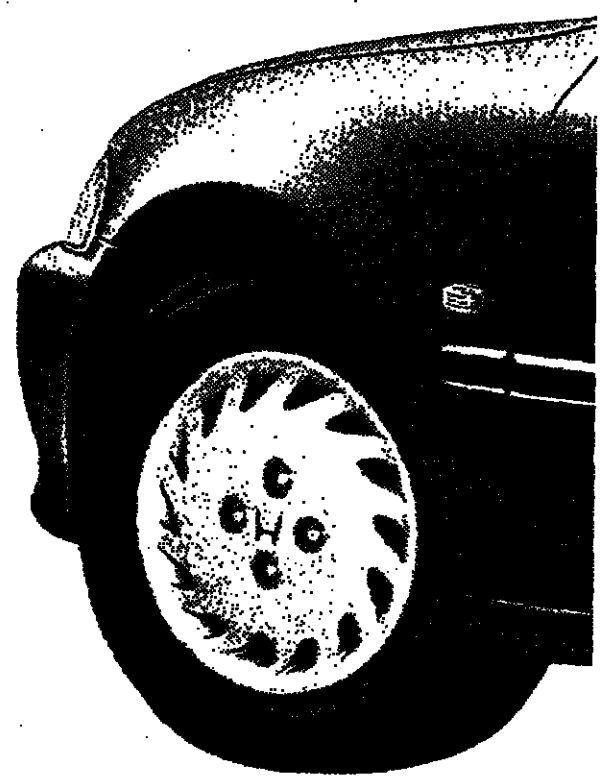
danger thing. If you buy a girl, you can control her — and most celebrities have to think they are in control."

Ms Collins says that the girls involved in the sort of call-girl rings run by Ms Fleiss probably got a vicarious thrill from sleeping with celebrities. "They are young girls," Ms Collins says, "usually models or would-be actresses and they're doing it to earn money. For many, this could be their open-door to a movie part. It's also a power thing for them — they think they can control an international sex symbol."

ANOTHER authority on the psychology of sex in 1990s Hollywood is the LA author Bill Stadeim, who, by a stroke of propitious timing, has just finished writing *Madam 90210*, an expose of the prostitution racket in Hollywood, which he co-wrote with the notorious Beverly Hills madame Elizabeth Adams (Heidi Fleiss was a protégé of Adams).

Mr Stadeim says that one reason why many stars and executives go to prostitutes is because they are married. "It's hard for a celebrity to go to a bar or a nightclub and to try and pick up a girl," he says. "The LA circuit is tiny. They would get caught immediately. The men can meet the girls, have an affair — a two hour affair that is — and go back to their wives. The extraordinary thing is they don't think they are cheating on them — it's more like going to their personal trainer." Only more exhausting.

WILLIAM CASH



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line Stacey, the food editor of *Our*, blames it on the fact that Pubs have started to offer a soggy sausage roll at the same time as wine lists and girls. "I've never seen a girl who's been welcomed back into a pub. They blend so well with the summer's look, of the shirts, the laddered legs, the easy hair. And what of the beer? It was always a bit of a joke. You never knew if you were going to eat or drink and cafes are more

afraid I am an undignified occasional. I can't even order a spritzer in a pub. I've been asked to leave a bar. I would win. I shoulder pads out years

guine's thumbprint to the name of Hansen. Jaguine fled Argentina in 1980 to London, where he was a migration official. He attended the Shakespeare School of English in Hollywood, earning the disparaging title "El Lord" for his English accent and a pipe. He applied for a visa but left for Nicaragua in 1979. By then, a young Argentine guerrilla, led by Guevara and a young Guevara's brother, had gone to work in Montero.

Borge said Renan was a troublemaker for counter-revolution. What Borge failed to mention was that Renan was called himself "the assassin of the leader in Honduras" and the exiled dictator, in Paraguay, in 1982. Renan was in Brazil, then Venezuela, then to Panama, Costa Rica, and then to the United States, where he was in the White House, using the name of his brother, who was a previous president of the United States.

In March, he was in the White House, using the name of his brother, who was a previous president of the United States. He was in the White House, using the name of his brother, who was a previous president of the United States. He was in the White House, using the name of his brother, who was a previous president of the United States.

'I'm supposed to be some sort of lout. But I know Latin. I know the roots of words'

THE VALERIE GROVE INTERVIEW

BERNIE GRANT is talking about national pride and self-confidence. "You cannot have greatness in sport without it. British cricket and football teams have nothing to perform for. It is a frame of mind. That's why they have gone to the dogs."



fact I once thought of putting down an early day motion in Latin in the House. When you have translated Virgil's *Aeneid* and Caesar's *Gallie Wars* it is quite simple.

Now it is my turn to have a sense of *déjà vu*, since only last week I was talking about Latin to Enoch Powell. There is a curious bond between Powell and Grant. Each is now and ever shall be dogged by one ten-word phrase: Powell's "I seem to see the Tiber foaming with much blood"; Grant's "They would say the police got a bloody good hiding".

It might be Lord Rees-Mogg speaking. But the black-and-white world of the tabloids contains many shades of grey, and "Barmy Bernie", the *Sun's* *bête noire*, has lately become barmy Bernie, who pours oil on troubled waters. The death of Joy Gardner brought him back into the headlines (Riot... fear... threat...) with a feeling of *déjà vu*. In 1985 Cynthia Jarrett died of a heart attack while her house was searched by police, and it ended in the horror of Broadwater Farm. Eight years later, Joy Gardner dies of suffocation after a deportation squad has entered her house and tried to restrain her.

But Mr Grant has learnt to be circumspect. This time he makes no crass remarks. Instead, he praises the Metropolitan police chief, Paul Condon. "I have different responsibilities now," Grant says. "In 1985 I was the representative of the local community; now I am an elected Member of Parliament. I act differently."

He had just returned from 10 Downing Street to hand in a letter to John Major asking for a public enquiry, and to "smile nicely for the cameras". Bernard Alexander Montgomery Grant, baptised in 1942 with these military names, was "Monty" to his parents, who were both teachers. His mother taught in a Haringey school. "She was a dedicated, old-fashioned teacher who believed in dictation, vocabulary and spelling. I spell very well too. My grammar is excellent. I am a product of a strict colonial education, which was worth its weight in gold. I find the press much less well-educated than I am."

After Broadwater Farm, I am supposed to be some sort of lout. But I know Latin. I went to a Jesuit college, for Christ's sake! I know the roots of words. As a matter of

Last weekend I watched with wary interest as, despite the Socialist Workers' Party's inflammatory placards about Tory racism, no riot took place. I live — like Grant — in the greener part of this borough. I know the new block of flats where Mrs Gardner lived. Our local home beat PC, Richard Coombes, was horribly wounded at Broadwater Farm, where his friend Keith Blakelock was hacked to death. But I had never before ventured up the Tottenham High Road, where Bernie Grant has his office in the ethnic heart of his constituency, above a pine shop. I asked him what he thought the



Bernie Grant: he is exhausted after the storm surrounding Joy Gardner's death. The police should have backed off from the start, he says

police should have done with Mrs Gardner. "If, as they claim, she was almost naked and throwing things, she was obviously not in a state to be rational. They could have kept an eye on the back and front doors to make sure she did not go anywhere. They could have called her relatives: they could have called me. I would have gone along and said to her, 'Come on Joy, you've got to go.'"

"She had not murdered anyone, or stolen anything. All she did was to stay in Britain longer than she should have, and she knew that. The force that was used was totally disproportionate to what she had done."

As he said, if a mad gunman barricades himself in a house, police surround it and get a psychological expert to coax him out. Like the story of little Irma, the case of Joy Gardner has become a focus. Nobody before apparently knew about the medieval equipment used on deportees. The police often moan about how "powerless" they are with young car thieves. They watch murderers "walk free". They were helpless to stop Asil Nadir's flight. Yet the deportation squad is armed with manacles and gag when arresting a black woman at home. It is, to say the least, baffling.

Grant is exhausted. He and his white partner, Sharon Lawrence — who sits in the adjoining office — should have been in the Caribbean by now. Today there is another deportation problem, a woman who flew in from Jamaica to attend her niece's wedding. She only wants to stay six weeks but after a ten-hour interrogation by immigration officers she has been told to leave at once, no reason given. "The immigration service is more secretive than M15." The telephone rings on cue and it is Mr Wardle's office, warning details of the new case.

Grant arrived here as an immigrant from Guyana in 1963, aged 19, to a London whose streets were paved, not with gold but at least paved. Any crack in the paving was soon repaired. The holes in our roads, he says, are symbolic of a deteriorating infrastructure reflecting unemployment, deprivation, lack of hope. "I almost treat Tottenham like a Third World country."

"People who came from the Caribbean are very conscious of

"People think I am just a police-hating, criminal-loving bad sort. I have been called an uppity nigger. I should know my place, be grateful for what Britain has done for me."

"But I am not English. And in the Caribbean we have a different way of looking at things. I am outspoken and challenging. If I try to crack a joke in Parliament they are shocked. Another MP says the same thing and they burst out laughing. They don't expect humour from me."

Since his marriage ended, he still sees his three children almost daily. Politically he is on his own. When I ask about his relationship with the "white, middle-class" Tottenham Labour Party he laughs uneasily and says he must plead the fifth amendment. As for the black caucus in the House, it no longer exists: he does not get on with Diane Abbott or the others. "Too many chiefs and not enough Indians. Not that sounds racist. Let me try a different analogy: too many bowls and not enough skittles."

He prefers the company of Jeremy Corbyn, Tony Benn, Dennis Skinner. He is far happier with John Smith than he was with Neil Kinnock. "Kinnock tried to push all the left wingers out. John Smith is above all that. An old-fashioned right winger, who understands that you have to have a balance in the party."

If he ran this country, he said, he would start at the bottom. "Black people are the bottom of the pile. Big business has all the help it needs. So if you want to build a policy, you start by sorting something out for the worst off, then everyone benefits. Give people at the bottom the tools to aspire, and responsibilities, instead of assuming they are useless and a waste of time, living on benefits and never doing anything. Then things will improve, the way things have improved at Broadwater Farm."

After Broadwater Farm, they held a meeting with the young people on the estate and offered them apprenticeships in trades such as plumbing and scaffolding. "And they said, we don't want those jobs, we want to be pilots, racing drivers, brain surgeons! We were shocked. We were telling them, you are working-class and you can only achieve so much. But they weren't having that. That graphically illustrated to me why they drop out of dead-end training schemes and go on the dole."

But I said, these are pipe dreams... "Yes, I know, only one in a thousand could become a pilot. But our mistake is not realising they do want such opportunities. People say, 'we were poor in the thirties and there was no crime'. But now the kids are fed all these images on television: fast cars, smart women, tennis players making millions: and that's what they want."

There was a third person in the room with us: a young black civil servant. He listened in silence, and afterwards found me in the street outside. Why, he asked, had I spoken of "pipe dreams" when Bernie said young blacks might want to be pilots? He himself wanted to be an MP. "People think we are all criminals. In fact, most black people come from very strict, God-fearing homes. My family is Pentecostal, very religious. And in our homes we have washing machines. Why do we never see black people in advertisements for washing machines?"

The courage to speak out about rape

Judy X was attacked when collecting funds for the Conservatives. When she states the victim's case in Blackpool, judges will be in the dock

Like most suburban housewives, Judy X had never spoken in public before she took to the podium on the last day of the Scottish Conservative party conference in May. When she stepped down 20 minutes later and collapsed in tears in the arms of a woman friend, her shocked audience had risen to its feet for a standing ovation. The row of ministers and male Tory grandees on the platform look stunned.

Minutes later television stations around the country were broadcasting her speech and she was able to watch herself on the main evening news programmes. Later John Major paid her a special tribute. He had heard what she had had to say and took note. She spoke for the nation, he told her. The next day her story grabbed the front page headlines in all the tabloid newspapers.



Judy X: "The more I resisted, the more violent he became. Had I continued to resist, he would have killed me"

the basic facts and I have to get my message across, but it also has to move on," she says. The basic facts are that when she was raising funds for the Conservative party in May last year, John Cronin, posing as a priest, said he wanted to discuss a donation to the party. Once inside Judy's home, the 20-year-old battered her with a poker, bent at a right angle, thrashed her and almost killed her before committing a de-her before attacking Judy, who was grading sex children, told her four young children, told her the more violent he resisted. I knew I had no option but to yield to his sexual

desires. Adrenalin and the survival instinct take over. Had I continued to resist, he would have killed me."

Cronin, who had been released on bail seven days before the attack, was sentenced to life. On appeal, however, that was reduced to six years, a sentence that for Judy compounded the anger and frustration she felt about the original attack.

Articulate, intelligent and sociable, it is easy for outsiders to believe that she is over her ordeal. But this is far from the case. She is still undergoing counselling and admits that from time to time she "just crumbles". Her strength has come mainly from her husband and her family, whom she says have given her enormous support.

Since she initially launched her impassioned plea in May for more female judges and greater understanding for victims, her campaign has moved on. She met the home secretary last month, has participated in a BBC *Panorama* television programme on rape and has been appointed to the Scottish Crime Prevention Council.

In Blackpool, she will call for judges to meet victims of crime during their training period, and she wants harsh penalties for those judges who give outrageous sentences. "At present, judges don't meet victims. They should. Some judges understand the trauma victims face, but many do not," she says. She is also campaigning for minders for victims. "I was lucky in that I had terrific support from friends and family, but I still found the court process harrowing. What victims need is someone who can just hold their hand, explain the system in court and help them claim compensation."

"When you have a baby there is a terrific support system, but when you are the victim of violent crime there is very little."

It is not just for myself. My husband, parents and in-laws all had questions they wanted answered. "There is Victim Support but as they weren't the victims, they didn't feel it was for them."

It is a point she raised with the home secretary when she met him. As yet, she is not sure where the minders should come from. "It could be a social worker. The home secretary raised the possibility of this service coming from Victim Support, but I'm not sure that is right."

Before she takes to the platform in October, she plans to research the treatment of sex offenders and the role of judges in England and Scotland. "Perhaps it should be a condition of prisoners' sentences that they receive some kind of therapy. At present not all sex offenders take up the programmes on offer and many re-offend, often with a more violent crime." Cronin had convictions for fraud and indecent exposure before his attack on Judy.

If there is one message she would like to leave with the Conservative conference it is that victims need better justice within the court system and that victims of crime have done nothing wrong.

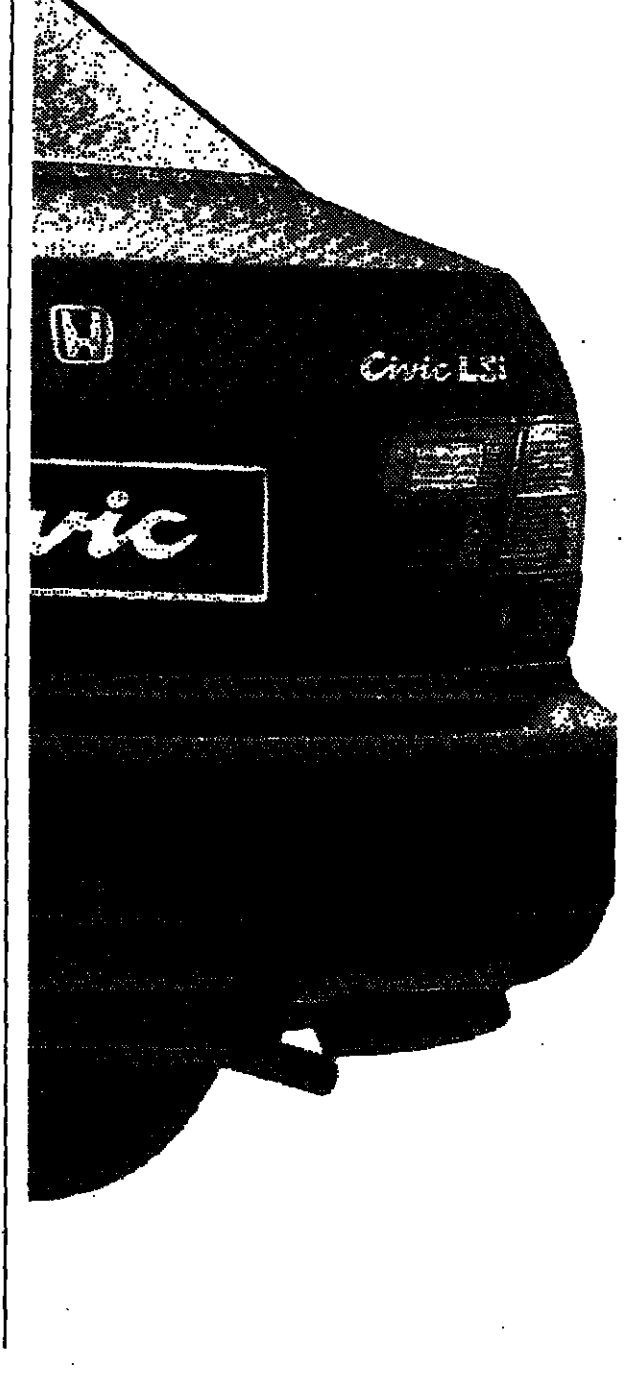
What drives her on is the huge number of letters she has received, many from men and many from victims of violent crime who have never had the courage to talk to anyone about it. "People ring me up and ask where they can get help," she says. "I am convinced I am speaking for a lot of people. Me and my big mouth."

GILLIAN BOWDITCH



HONDA

One of life's best feelings



Philip Howard



■ Diminutives are one of the oldest rhetorical tricks for evoking concern

Little Irma Hadzimuratovic brought the sufferings of Sarajevo shockingly into the world's television-rooms, and inspired a warm tidal wave of sympathy, generosity and anger. Most of the world finds it easier to understand an exemplary human interest story than the inextricable intricacies of Balkan politics. And most of the world has a point. Great preachers, such as Plato and J. Christ, have always used specific parables to explain their general message.

But little Irma also made a rhetorical point: the potency of the endearing diminutive. There were times on the first day when, if Brian Redhead had referred to "little" Irma once more on the *Today* programme, I would have thrown my foaming shaving-brush at the tannoy (there's another affectionate diminutive). Overnight, "little" became Irma's stock epithet, just as any good-looking, youngish grandmother is typecast by the press as a "glamorous granny" and any schoolgirl mother becomes a "gymslip mum".

The reason for these media clichés is not mere laziness or doubt about the spelling and pronunciation of Yugoslav names. They help to tell readers in a hurry that this is the kind of story it is, and this is the response expected from them. Dickens, who was a first-class popular journalist as well as a great novelist, was a master of tugging the heart-strings with diminutives, from Tiny "God bless us every one!" Tim to Little Nell. At the time, Dickens was awaked for sentimental populism, and the cynic who said that it was impossible to read the death of little Nell without falling about with laughter had a point. There comes a stage when the heart-strings twang or break. You cannot beat a tiny tot for stirring your emotions. But if there is a stick handy, and he has just woken you up out of sheer mischief for the fifth time in the middle of the night, the temptation is sometimes hard to resist.

Most languages have diminutives, and for once it implies something quite nice about human nature that they are usually affectionate. The instinct to protect the weak and defenceless cubs of one's tribe is strong in most higher animals (though not in lobsters, which is why they have to be farmed in separate cages). Yet there is no special virtue in smallness. Large, clumsy people feel as much pain (especially when going through low doorways) as the small, and deserve as much sympathy.

English has fewer diminutives than most languages, and they are used to convey smallness, and usually affection, but also, paradoxically, dismissal. A duckling is a little duck, a darling is a little dear, a cigarette is a small cigar. But one imagines that one would rather be described as a prince than a princeling, which is patronising, and stiff feminists argue that, as well as femaleness, an usherette conveys lesser status than an usher.

Romantic languages such as Spanish are far richer in diminutives than English. Italian *-ino* has alternative diminutive suffixes, *-etto* to suggest "dear little", and *-uccio* to suggest "naughty little", often with a hint of roguish affection.

The professional hacks who coined the stock epithet of "little" for Irma Hadzimuratovic may not have realised it under the lash of the deadline, but they were working with primeval rhetoric as well as primeval emotions. Formulaic epithets are an important part of the first literature of the Western world, so that characters are always labelled with their stock characteristics. Odysseus is usually "the man of many wiles", Penelope, who needs all her cunning to keep the suitors out of her bedroom, is usually "of many gifts", prudent and sensible. Homer used stock epithets as building-blocks for extemporising oral poetry, and to remind his listening audience of the salient features of each character. *Mutatis mutandis*, just like modern journalists. But when Hector's infant son shrinks back with a cry from his father's terrifying horsehair plume, he is not labelled "little" Asyanax, or "heartbreak tiny tot", even though we know the cruel death that waits just round the corner for them all. Such reticence is more heart-breaking than laudable of pitiful diminutives. That is one difference between poetry and journalism.

Making employers pay for maternity will load the scales against women, says Libby Purves

Benefits that may become drawbacks

From next autumn, British standards of maternity pay will come into line with EC requirements. This could be, still might be, grand news: more money, a minimum entitlement even after short service, and — not least — greater choice in when the leave is taken. This last is more important than it sounds: few things annoy healthy first-time mothers so much as having to moon around an empty house for six weeks before the birth, losing precious time afterwards because of an inflexible rule based not on office work but on heavy factory duties. All this is welcome. But Peter Lilley's indication that employers will have to pay for 10 per cent of increased maternity benefits is a plain disaster. It will hit all working women, mothers or not. For times are hard in business, and women's chances squeezed enough already: anything which makes hiring women seem more troublesome than hiring men will be another straw on an already overloaded camel's back.

Try to see things from the point of view of the camel: some harassed personnel officer or small employer. Pregnancy is a bravura bit of productivity and an investment in society's future, but there is no point denying that in management terms it is a damnable inconvenience. For key workers to be absent for a minimum of 14 weeks is disruptive in an organisation of any size.

and can cause small ones severe aggravation and loss. Not every job is easily handed over to a three-month temp. The woman's automatic right to return — accompanied by the slight nagging possibility that she won't — deepens the camel's gloom. If he (or, alas, she) has been reading silly articles about "mommy-tracking" and the theory that childbirth causes a hormonal surge away from paid work and towards the making of greengrocery jam, this dyspepsia increases. After a morning when two reliable employees simultaneously announce their happy news, he may spend his afternoon seeing candidates for another job: is he not, all else being roughly equal, going to incline towards the one without a womb?

The risk comes less with big, prosperous corporations, which not only have clear policies about recruiting women but can afford to take the long view because their employees are more inter-

changeable. Such companies usually offer a better deal than the statutory maternity benefits anyway. Smaller, more recession-haunted ones take a sourer view. There is something refreshing about the openly dihard attitudes revealed in the European Court cases against the armed services: plenty of civilian women read of the abrupt dismissals of pregnant officers and said: "Hah! Just what my boss would love to have done to me, if he had dared. As it was, he just sidelined me." Others, more sadly, said to themselves, "They didn't call it sacking, but my contract wasn't renewed once they knew about the baby."

This is no cynical concoction. It is a message from the real world: from industrial tribunals, from stunned professional women who found themselves selected for redundancy by "coincidence" while they were in labour, from letters and appeals of a kind that no

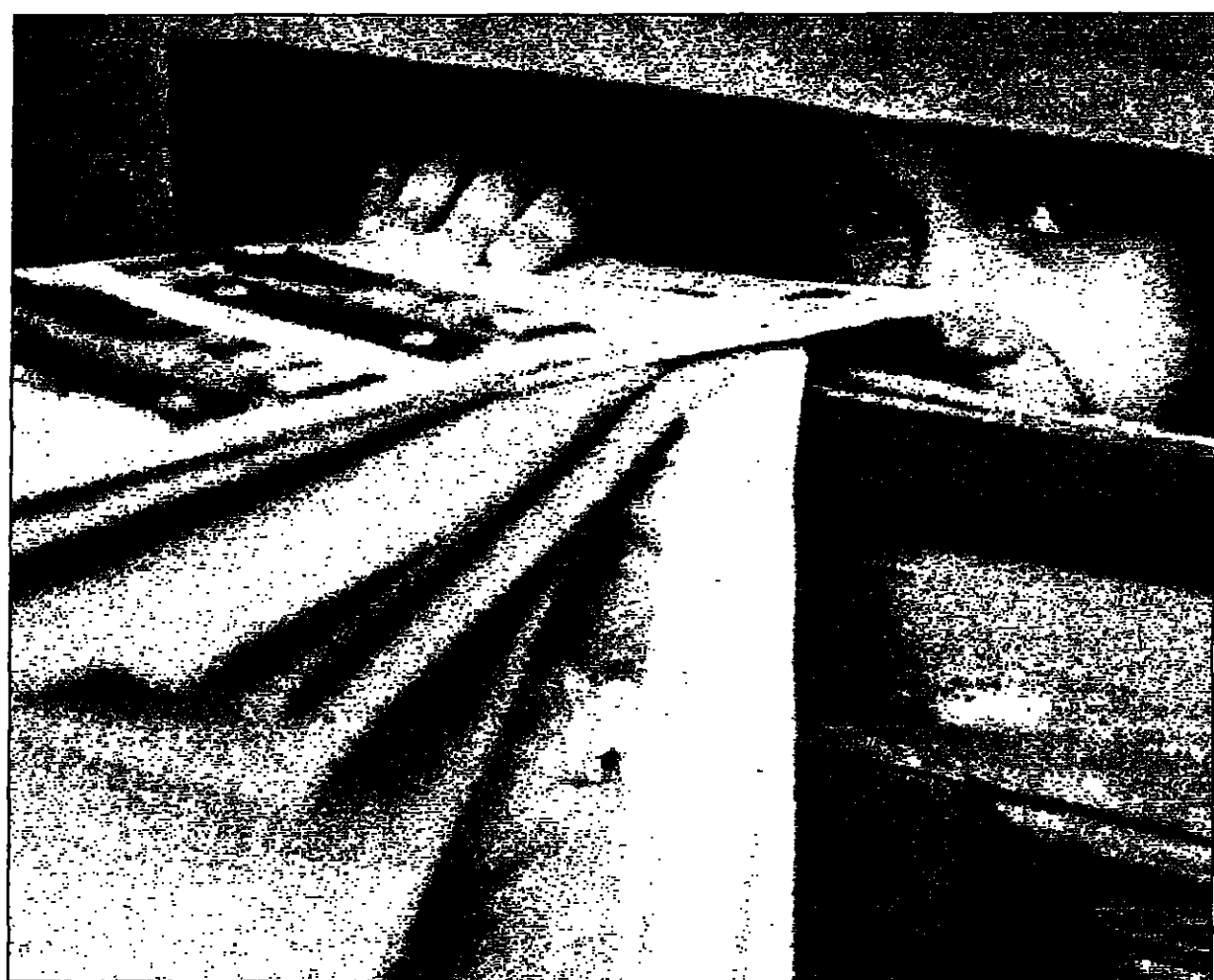
woman journalist can be unaware of. The unvarnished, politically incorrect fact is that in recruitment and promotion women still suffer from the dark presentiment in employers' minds that they are bad bets. Bosses still do their damndest (though surreptitiously) to find out a woman's childbearing intentions. No body is exempt suspicion used to fall only on youngish, married or obviously marriageable women. Now, with older pregnancies and unmarried motherhood becoming social norms, and alarming tales such as that of the 58-year-old professional woman with a younger lover who shopped in Dr Antinori's Italian clinic for IVF twins, the baleful eye of doubt will be cast on all of us, however old, plain, or dedicated. The only sure route to promotion will be to have a hysterectomy and talk about it constantly within the hearing of one's managers. Which, I suppose, might in itself be a stumbling-block to promotion.

Of course things are improving, but it takes time. If, at this stage, the government decides to load 10 per cent of the costs of maternity leave onto employers, the camel's back will break. Equal opportunities and unfair dismissal legislation are not foolproof: nobody with any sense wants quotas or other interference in an employer's right to select the best employee. But the scales must not be loaded one straw more against women.

As for the cost, we ought by now to have outgrown the early Thatcherite notion that there is "no such thing as a free lunch". We do not expect every village to defend itself with muskets, so we pay for the army and police. We impose a national curriculum, and European health regulations, because we — society, which appoints government — perceive these things to be good. Since anyone can perceive that increasingly we need women's skills in the workplace, and that we also need the next generation, we must bite the bullet and club together to pay for that too. Women who raise children and keep on working are not monsters or freaks: driven by necessity and ambition, they work conscientiously to juggle their responsibilities. Their enterprise and ambition are characteristics worth passing on to the next generation. They deserve, if not help, at least freedom from actual hindrance.

More deadly in the mail

Freelance office-wrecker, experienced in computer-trashing and window-breaking, needed to put magazine out of business



All the post that's fit to junk: can they never take a 1,000-word hint and remove a name from their mailing-list?

Is there anyone among my readers who might, in the near future, be passing through Hightstown, New Jersey, USA, and would be willing to do a simple errand for me? If so, would he or she get in touch with me after reading this? The errand I want carried out is quite straightforward, and I am perfectly willing to give the details and the reason I want it done.

It is this. I want someone to go to Hightstown, and seek out the premises of a particular business. I haven't got the exact address, but there is a box number (506), and a full zip-code, viz., 08520-0506; moreover, I believe that Hightstown is quite a small place, and probably any passer-by could give my messenger comprehensive directions.

And what do I want my messenger to do? I want him or her to go first right round the building, smashing every window in the place. That done, I want the doors broken down, hauled off their hinges, piled up and burned. Next, I want my visitor to enter the building and break up all the desks and filing-cabinets. (This task will become easier as he or she goes up the building, because throwing them out of the windows to smash when they get to the ground will obviously need only one shove — particularly since all the windows will have been broken earlier.) It is very likely that there will be cupboards all round: it will be necessary to have these opened, and all papers, documents, files and the like should be torn into small pieces and burned. Undoubtedly, there will be a large number of computers and word-processors in the building: these must be torn apart, particularly when they are loaded with vital software. The washrooms — I imagine there would be several of these, because the people in charge of American offices are usually much more cleanliness-minded than we are — are also to be smashed up, but my kind helper must make sure that all the taps are turned full on, so that everything in the building will be soaked and things like carpets irretrievably ruined. Of course, every movement of my helpful errand-runner — this is very important indeed — must be scrupulously watched to ensure that no one gets hurt.

Or rather, no one but a Mr John W. Patten, Publisher (not connected to our politician). Before my helpmeet sets out on my errand, I shall have put together a substantial box of syringes, which I shall hand over to my Man or Girl Friday before he or she starts the initial work of demolition: the last part of the errand will take the form of capturing Mr John W. Patten, tying him immovably, and then — this is where the syringes come in — injecting him with very substantial doses of Acne, Abscesses, Biliary Colic, Bronchitis, Bunions, Carbuncles, Catarrh, Conjunctivitis, Dandruff, Debility, Eczema, Euresis, Enteritis, Fistula, Fibrositis, Gastritis, Hallucinations, Heartburn, Hypertension, Influenza, Infertility, Jaundice, Kyphosis, Laryngitis, Lethargy,

Lumbago, Malaria, Malnutrition, Mitral Stenosis, Nausea, Nephritis, Nettles, Obesity, Osteoarthritis, Palpitations, Pellagra, Pneumonia, Peritonitis, Quinsy, Reynaud's Disease, Rhinitis, Regurgitation, Scoliosis, Senility, Shingles, Thrombophlebitis, Tics, Ulcers, Varicose Veins, Vertigo, Wens, Whipworm, Wind, Xanthelasma, Yellow Fever and Zoonosis.

That should settle his hash. Now let me explain why his hash must be settled. In April 1989, I got a piece of junk-mail from Hightstown, New Jersey. Well, we all suffer from junk-mail, but I have no problem in throwing it into the rubbish-bin, and immediately forgetting about it. This item, however, was so crass, so stupidly couched, so offensive in its contempt for the recipients, so obviously put together without thought, work or interest, that instead of throwing it away, I kept it, and wrote a column about it in this space.

The envelope bore my name and address, and in large red capitals announced that it had for me, if I would

Bernard Levin

only open the envelope, an OFFICIAL PROPOSAL, couched in these terms:

The recipient whose name appears above has been selected to receive the enclosed Proposal solely because of his or her level of participation and record of achievement in international business. The enclosed Proposal is valid only for the person named above.

Now, of course, I have no record of achievement in international business, let alone a record that demands a Proposal listing my level of participation, so the first glance at the envelope demonstrated that it was a con, and a shoddy, silly and lazy con at that. I never did decide whether the impudence or the

incompetence (look at that "his or her" for a start) took the first place, but I decided that whichever it was I would open the envelope and discover what was coming my way in the form of the OFFICIAL PROPOSAL, which, remember, was valid only for the person named above. With trembling fingers, I drew from the envelope a piece of paper: it said "You have been chosen to receive a 25% saving off a 1-year subscription to *Business Week International*."

This is how I responded:

...when I read that I had been selected to receive a proposal solely because of my record ... in international business, I knew it was a fake, since I have no international business. But suppose I did have ... global deals successfully brought off, worldwide chains of businesses founded ... would I be more gullible, feel more flattered, when I was told in this way that my industry had been noted and was about to be rewarded? And if so, would those feelings survive the opening of the envelope, when I would find that I had been chosen to receive a few lousy quid off a subscription to *Business Week International*?

I bashed these clowns about for a thousand words more, and forgot the whole episode. Until this year, when, to my amazement, I discovered that despite the bashing I had given this quite stupendously useless organisation, it had not even had enough intelligence to knock my name and address out of the computer. This time, the blurb was more sickening and even more illiterate.

Business Week International gives you the edge you need in today's business climate. With concise reporting tuned to upper management's needs, pinpoint targeting of trends, insights into which strategies are working — and which aren't. And cutting-edge intelligence on the issues that matter most — your competition, your career, your personal investments at home and around the world.

If I bashed these clowns about the first time, you may imagine the vigour with which I bashed them this time. But now there was something else; the first come-on had offered a 25 per cent reduction in the magazine's subscription, but the second one offered double the giveaway to 50 per cent. Obviously, the wretched mag is in trouble, I decided, and with any luck it will go out of business and we shall all be shot of it.

Yes, you have guessed. It came a few days ago: here goes.

Dear Bernard Levin: Many of the smart international executives you're competing with are being briefed each week by *Business Week*. That's precisely the reason that I've reserved *Business Week International* at 50% savings off the regular subscription price. It's the best way I know to let you judge for yourself whether *Business Week International's* incisive style is right for you.

Well, I won't need much time to decide whether *Business Week International's* incisive style is right for me. It isn't. One of the many reasons it isn't is that you, sir, are a monumental liar. You say that many of the smart international executives I am competing with are being briefed by your lousy magazine. But that cannot be true, because I am never competing with any smart international executives. Moreover, you say that that's precisely the reason you have reserved your lousy magazine for me, which also cannot be true, because you have never heard of me.

Would you believe it? Believe that, is that Mr John W. Patten, Publisher, is so thick, so dumb, so pointy-headed, that despite the two public duffings-up I have given his lousy magazine, he still can't press one button, under guidance, which would ensure that a third duffing-up would not be coming his way?

But there is another thing. *Business Week International* is still coming out, greatly to my surprise, though I trust not for much longer. Now if the simple act of pressing a button to knock a name out of a computer is beyond the competence not only of Mr John W. Patten, Publisher, but the entire staff of the lousy magazine aforementioned, what do you suppose is the quality of the stuff that gets into it? Smart international executives, run for your lives!

Legitimate concern

THE TORY party conference in October will be an uncomfortable affair for John Major, not just because of Baroness Thatcher's antics. On the day before the conference starts, Teresa Gorman, the rrier-like MP for Bliericay, will publish *The Bastards: Dirty Tricks and the Challenge to Europe*.

Gorman's forthright account of the government's attempts to steamroll her and her Euro-rebels over the fascististic vote was commissioned by Pan this week. She working flat-out to meet her urgent 31 deadline after taking a synopsis to her friend and Macmillan, Pan Macmillan's deputy managing director and Harold Macmillan's grandson. Gorman says John Major's "title remark" about bastards prompted her to start scribbling. "I don't think the public has any idea of the tactics at the government used to wash the rebels. People were urged in, threatened with deletion. MPs are entitled to different views. The

whips went way over the top." Major's behaviour will also come under the microscope. "I will write about his handling of the whole thing. What were his real motivations? The public should know about these things. The government has become arrogant and dictatorial."

The book's foreword could cause a stir too. Pan hopes it will be written by one of Major's three cabinet "bastards". Gorman, however, is somewhat sceptical about gaining their co-operation: "It rather depends on whether they want to keep their jobs."

Family blues

ONE of the principal criticisms heaped upon Sir Patrick Sheehy's report into proposals for performance-related pay for the police was that he knew nothing about the service. But Sheehy, the chairman of BAT, is not quite as ignorant as he may seem. His paternal grandfather, Thomas, was a sergeant in the pre-revolution Royal Irish Constab-

ulary, the forerunner of the Royal Ulster Constabulary. Surprisingly, Sheehy made no mention of his police antecedents when he launched his report at the end of June. BAT is not wholly familiar with the Sheehy family tree. "It was a long time ago, I suppose every good family must have a policeman in it somewhere."

Should the second souvenir shop at Buckingham Palace prove to be as successful as the first, there will perhaps be cash left over for the Queen to buy a little something as her own memento of the Palace's opening. A pair of rare 18th-century chairs, are being ad-



DIARY

vertised for sale at £175,000 by Asprey, the Royal Jeweller, and could be just the ticket: they belong to a set of 20 bought by George III for Queen Charlotte, 14 of which are still in a corridor at the Palace.

Contrapuntal

THE London Philharmonic Orchestra has raised the tempo again in its fight to retain its £1.1 million Arts Council grant. Faced with competition from the Philharmonia and the Royal Philharmonic, it has brought in PR maestro Sir Tim Bell to fight its cause.

Bell's appointment means the LPO's campaign for survival is likely to be planned with the precision of a company takeover. Bell will work alongside the orchestra's new chief executive, Christopher Law-

rence, who used to be a merchant banker, and Elliott Bernard, the property tycoon who chairs its board of trustees.

Marketing director Jose Phillips says: "This is a critical period for us. We are doing everything possible to work towards the bid." Phillips's predecessor was Judy Grahame, whose husband just happens to be John Willan, the man Lawrence is replacing. Following the move by her husband, Grahame has decided to switch the Philharmonia as PR director. If anyone knows the LPO's weak spots, she does.

Pain, not progress

AS BRITAIN prepares to accept a further 20 sick children from Bosnia, Michael Nicholson, the ITN reporter who

smuggled an orphan out of Sarajevo, is finishing a book about his experience in the field. Nicholson adopted the ten-year-old girl Natasha Mihajlicic, and tried to track down her mother when he was last in Bosnia in April. "I put an advertisement in the Croatian newspapers. I was interviewed by Radio Sarajevo — to no avail," he says.

A Bosnian minister told the foreign correspondent, by now one of the best known faces in the Balkans because of publicity over Natasha, that the mother must be dead. "He said she would have come forward by now," says Nicholson, whose book *Natasha's Story* is being published by Macmillan in October.

The award-winning journalist, who has written six books, is unimpressed by the government's decision to airlift the wounded children from Bosnia. "The story could have been written about Irma a year ago. The same words and phrases are being used. The same tragedy was taking place a year ago. Nothing has changed." Natasha, meanwhile, goes from strength to strength. She has joined her local Brownies in Surrey.



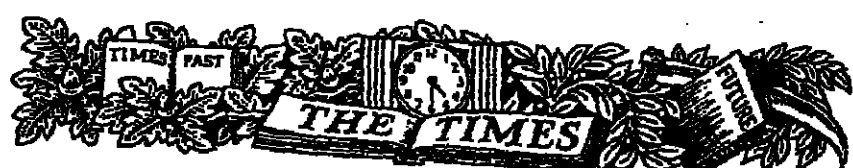
Investing in the (Chinese) future

HAVE Chris and Lavender Patten been touched by the cursed hand of Jacques Anzal? They are spending £550,000 renovating their main residence in Hong Kong, Government House. The centrepiece of their decorative efforts is to be a pink marble floor in the main reception area, costing £172,000.

Interviewed about the changes in the latest issue of *Harpers & Queen*, Lavender admits she finds the marble floors "rather fun but terrifying as well", but it appears that the floor area is only a taste of things to come. "We've still got to get rid of all those Laura Ashley fabrics. Everything has to be negotiated with the Treasury." Not that Patten will worry much about that. His £150,000 salary as governor of Hong Kong is tax free.

Norman Lamont was presumably a softer touch than Kenneth Clarke. One of the first things Clarke did on moving into No 11 Downing Street was to call a halt to Rosemary Lamont's grandiose renovation plans. The Patters, presiding over a 700 per cent increase in spending on decorations since their arrival, are ripe for Clarke's cutbacks.

حکومت الاصل



REINFORCING RECOVERY

If the economy weakens further, the Chancellor must act

Treasury officials have lately been showing renewed complacency about their economic policies, while the financial markets have arguably been getting over-confident about a recovery that has scarcely yet begun. The disappointing news of a small rise in unemployment and a sharp fall in manufacturing output, should help to remind the mandarins and brokers of some home truths familiar to every businessman and worker in Britain. The economy remains in recession; the spirit of enterprise is still being crushed by fears of bankruptcy and unemployment; the government's highest priority must be to improve job opportunities by accelerating economic growth.

Having recognised all this, the government and the markets should not over-react to a single month's figures. Although a strong case can be made for a further cut in interest rates, Kenneth Clarke will be well advised to keep his powder dry for the time being. His budget in November will require at least a full point off interest rates to counteract the deflationary effects of the higher taxes already announced.

To justify an easing before then, the Chancellor would need to see at least another month's worth of bad economic news. And fortunately, there was nothing in yesterday's statistics to suggest that the mild slowdown in July was the start of a downward trend. July's increase in unemployment was statistically negligible. The sharp fall in manufacturing output was exaggerated by the timing of the spring bank holiday. Thus, it is too soon to say that economic growth is unacceptably slow.

Whether the economy will, in the end, need another monetary nudge before the budget will depend largely on events outside

Britain. As the CBI reported in last month's industrial trends survey, there has been some falloff in orders for exports, even while domestic demand has continued to grow. If the weakness in exports continues, the case for a cut in interest rates before the budget will become irresistible.

At first sight, lower interest rates in Britain might seem an odd prescription for inadequate exports, due to recession in Europe. But with the pound floating freely on the foreign exchanges, there is no reason for British workers to stay in the dole queues just because the German and French governments choose to squeeze their economies with high interest rates. This is the main advantage of a floating exchange rate.

As long as inflation and wages remain under control in Britain, domestic policies can be set to move back towards full employment. If other countries choose to pursue different policies, the pound will simply fall until the sales of British exports and investments balance Britain's demand for goods and assets from overseas. If in the process, Britain's manufacturers become more competitive and gain market share, so much the better.

Low interest rates and a cheap pound will help steer investment into manufacturing industry, which is what Britain requires in the long term. And if French and German companies find British competitors eating into their markets, that should encourage them to cut their interest rates, too. A few weeks ago, France might have condemned such a policy as "competitive devaluation". But as the European exchange-rate mechanism fades into history, even the French might realise that monetary dogma is less important than prosperity and jobs.

PLAYING WITH FIRE

Nato threats mean nothing to Bosnia's Serbs

Grinning broadly for the press cameras, coachloads of Bosnian Serb troops descend Mount Igman. Others, including some 200 from the feared "Panther" unit which laid waste swathes of eastern Bosnia, are seen heading uphill. From distant Zagreb, the UN reports that the Serbs are complying with the demand to withdraw, while its spokesman in Sarajevo asserts that thousands of Serbs are still on the mountain along with "heavy artillery, tanks, trucks and mortars". In Geneva, aides to the Bosnian Serb leader, Radovan Karadzic, put it about that he is having "furious" telephone talks with local commanders. They in turn say in one breath that they have withdrawn, and in another that the UN must first declare Igman a "neutral zone" to prevent the return of Bosnian government forces.

The "strangulation" of Sarajevo which Nato has staked its international credibility on preventing began, of course, months before the fall of Mount Igman. The position matters only because the city's defenders have relied on that route to smuggle in miserably inadequate munitions. Even if every last Serb leaves Igman, the city will continue to be crushed. On no account must Nato play this Bosnian Serb game, the latest in a familiar tactic of providing just enough excuse for British ministers — who have led the opposition to military action all summer — to argue for a stay of execution.

More relevant to a Nato decision is the UN's daily record of what it is pleased to call "violations of the ceasefire" declared on July 30. What that meant to Sarajevans on Wednesday, to take one example, was that 90 Serb shells hit the city; a single Bosnian government missile, from a shrinking arsenal, returned fire. The UN celebrated

the arrival of a mere six trucks of fuel yesterday, the first for a month, as "a major accomplishment". Undoubtedly it was proof of the choking grip of the blockade.

On the other side of the Atlantic spines seem at last to be stiffening, both in Washington and at the UN in New York. Warren Christopher, so recently a dove, has abruptly affirmed that Sarajevo's survival is in America's "national interest" and said that the "real test" for Nato is not Serb troop movements, but the lifting of the siege.

American resolve has been on display before, only to evaporate. But the UN secretary-general, Boutros Boutros Ghali, is suddenly talking like a man who has been fooled once too often. The decision on airstrikes, he says, "has already been taken" and can be activated for a wide range of reasons. The order can be given "at any time". Again, this may be bluster; but it appears to support the American contention that the secretary-general, whose explicit approval Nato must seek under the nightmarishly complex chain of command insisted on, largely at British instigation, by the Nato council, will not block military action.

Britain, however, still might and the order from the Nato council must be unanimous. Ministers quake at Mr Karadzic's talk of "all-out war and catastrophe" — capped yesterday by an empty threat to buy nuclear weapons for use against the West. It is thanks in large part to British diplomacy that the Serb war machine has never been tested. John Major's offer of a few hospital beds must be set in perspective: since the siege began, around 12,000 children have been wounded and 1,500 killed. At this latest of late dates Nato — with full British backing — must hold course.

FAITH IN PLURALISM

The Pope's meeting with the president should profit both

The Pope's meeting with President Clinton in Denver, Colorado, yesterday, was a symbolic encounter between two generations and two radically opposed cultures. The 73-year-old Pope, who is hostile to contraception, abortion and any dilution of papal authority, personifies the conservative face of Roman Catholicism. The novice president represents a younger constituency, committed to women's rights, choice in abortion and progressive political doctrines.

The dilemma the Pope faces on this visit foreshadows the broader dilemma which the forthcoming encyclical *Veritatis Splendor* may pose for the Church. The Vatican's hardest task has always been to bind its global flock to a common morality without fragmenting the Church into a thousand warring sects. In America, the Pope's control of the upper reaches of the Church hierarchy is impressive: almost two-thirds of the country's Catholic bishops are his own appointments. But lower down, there is an alarming shortage of priests, a growing lobby for female ordination and a cacophony of theological disagreement.

An increasing number of America's 59 million Catholics appear to be taking issue with the Pope's hierarchical view of moral teaching and prefer to follow their consciences rather than Vatican dogma on issues such as abortion, birth control and the ordination of women. Many American Catholics combine strong admiration for the Pope with a reluctance to adhere slavishly to his definition of faith. His distaste for those who choose their doctrines à la carte — what he calls the "pick and choose Church" — is understandable; but in crude terms the

Vatican cannot afford to alienate the American Catholics who provide more than a third of the Vatican's \$120 million budget.

This clash between Western pluralism and religious centralism indicates the risks inherent in *Veritatis Splendor*, which is expected to extend the authority of the *magisterium* to moral behaviour and thus claim unprecedented papal power over the private lives of Catholic believers. It is therefore significant that the Pope appears to have postponed the final authorisation of the encyclical until he returns from America. There is hope that in its final form it may not be as uncompromising as in early drafts.

Yet the papal visit also has important lessons for Mr Clinton. Far from marking the final triumph of American secularism over religious traditionalism, it has reaffirmed that many American citizens — not all of them Catholic — dissent sharply from the president's liberal morality. Many in middle America who did not vote for Mr Clinton have found more with which they can identify in this elderly Polish visitor than in the commander-in-chief from Arkansas.

The Pope's visit may have revealed the tensions within American Catholicism; but it has also given fresh focus to the anti-abortion movement and to those of all faiths who believe that key moral questions cannot be left to individual conscience. The president beat his Republican opponent, who campaigned strongly against abortion, by only five per cent. Like the Pope, Mr Clinton governs a community in which hundreds of thousands disagree profoundly with his moral vision. For both, the accommodation of dissent will be a formidable challenge.

Use of force on Bosnian Serbs

From General Sir John Akhurst

Sir, Your leading article of August 11 takes critical swings at Europeans, the Nato Council, Mr Hurd, Mr Rifkind and, by implication, anyone else who stands in the way of American will (and the media) to use force in Bosnia to bring the Serbs to heel.

Although availability of forces and money and strict national interests must be taken into account, there are other important factors causing the alleged indecision and vacillation. If those you blame thought that force would solve the tragic problem, few would begrudge the means to apply it.

There are many reasons to doubt whether force would work, including the difficulties of giving clear objectives, identifying targets and friend from foe, and the survivability of artillery against air attack in close country; but the best argument lies in the news reports in the same edition of your own newspaper about the situation in Somalia.

Here, as your correspondent makes clear, the local warlord, General Aidiid, is running the same rings around American technology and firepower as once did General Giap in Vietnam. As the headline on your report says, he "throws American strategy into disarray". Such is the potential penalty of using force which makes wise men demur.

Ineffective and desperately difficult though a solution may be it must surely be diplomatic and political, not military.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN AKHURST,
Army & Navy Club, Pall Mall, SW1,
August 11.

From Mr A. R. A. Hobson

Sir, Anglicans will have noticed with interest the addition of a new diocese to our Church. The Rt Rev Roger Sainsbury has become the Bishop of Barking and Bromley (report, "Bishop warns Serbs bombed", August 9). In the 1960s Archbishop Ramsey proposed bombing Rhodesia. His advice was not taken and in course of time, after patient negotiation, Zimbabwe came into being.

Classical writers inform us that Zeus launched his thunderbolts against those who disagreed with him. St Francis, on the other hand, set out, barefoot and alone, to convert the Sultan of Egypt. The bishop prefers to copy Zeus, rather than St Francis, but having no thunderbolts to hand hopes to enlist the RAF.

When will bishops learn to take their righteous indignation off the stove before it boils over?

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,
A. R. A. HOBSON,
The Glebe House,
Whitbury, Hampshire,
August 9.

From Mr Adrian Weale

Sir, I cannot agree with Brigadier Dowdall's opinion (letter, August 6) that "our public... is more stoical than many in authority seem to believe". In my view, public opinion is not prepared to accept military casualties in the quantities that an enforced settlement of the Bosnian crisis would now require.

One only has to remember the outcry over the tragic deaths of British soldiers in the Gulf War "friendly fire" incident to realise that even a handful of unnecessary deaths in a professional military force strains public tolerance to the limits.

Equally, whilst I know that British forces committed to Bosnia will act to the best of their considerable abilities in whatever tasks are demanded of them, I know from my own experience, as an infantry officer in the mid-1980s (coincidentally with 1 FWO, the British battalion now in Bosnia), that soldiers are reluctant to risk their lives in a situation where such risks could be avoided.

Yours faithfully,
ADRIAN WEALE,
5 Stanhope Mews South, SW7,
August 9.

From Mr H. Berger

Sir, You do well to refer in your leader today to the desertion of Abyssinia, left to its fate 60 years ago, but let us not forget, from the 1930s, the shameful policy of non-intervention that left republican Spain to its fate, and the contemptible Runciman mission that opened the way for Hitler in Czechoslovakia.

Yours faithfully,
H. BERGER,
106 Cassiobury Drive,
Watford, Hertfordshire,
August 11.

From Mr Nicholas Bowman

Sir, Congratulations to the politicians who have finally come up with a scheme which allows them to save their consciences whilst continuing to do nothing to solve the problems of the former Yugoslavia. Simply rescue one poor wounded child... and perhaps 40 more if absolutely necessary. Then sit back, enjoy acclamation throughout the media, and leave hundreds and thousands to perish through cold, starvation and the bullet.

Brilliant.
Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS BOWMAN,
Flat 5, 24 Palmeira Square,
Hove, Sussex,
August 10.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9KN Telephone 071-762 5000

Britain's place in a wider, more democratic Europe

From Sir Roy Denman

Sir, Douglas Hurd's article on Europe ("A good deal of British sense", August 6) will sadden if not surprise our European partners. It deals with the problems of today in the language of yesterday.

His themes are impeccable — enlargement, free trade, subsidiarity. The trouble is that the continentals have learnt to decipher Britishpeak. "Enlargement" means pressing for the admission of as many countries as possible as quickly as possible, so that any move to closer union is drowned in an unmanageable free trade area.

"Free trade" in Anglo-Saxon terms means dismantling the common agricultural policy; progress in scaling it down has already been made, but more radical structural changes at a time of very high unemployment are more than our continental partners are prepared to stomach. "Subsidiarity" means hands off by Brussels: but in a customs union there has to be some central body to ensure for businessmen a level playing field.

Britain has much to contribute to a European Union and much to lose. If it continues much longer to insist on no more than a commercial arrangement it will be left behind, just as it was when the Six signed the Treaty of Rome in 1957, this time as an offshore island, trading freely with a continental bloc, but with no say in its economic and political affairs: a relationship similar to that between Puerto Rico and the United States.

I suspect that in his heart Douglas Hurd knows this full well. But the Conservative government has a tiny majority in the House of Commons, a noisy and influential Europhobic minority, and a prime minister with little sense of European history and thus of a European future. So the foreign secretary can say no other. That is Britain's tragedy.

Yours faithfully,
ROY DENMAN,
1946 Avenue de Tervuren,
Bte 15, Brussels 1150,
August 8.

From Mr Christopher Jackson, MEP for Kent East (European People's Party (Conservative))

Sir, Douglas Hurd's wise article on Maastricht stresses as grand themes for the future a wider Europe and a free-trading Europe.

Papal encyclical

From Mrs Daphne McLeod

Sir, The debate on the forthcoming papal encyclical, *Veritatis Splendor* (letters, August 9), hinges, for Catholics, on the relationship between individual conscience and the authority of Christ's church.

If conscience is always innately right, it will never have to look beyond itself for guidance. Its own infallibility would be insured. Individual consciences coming to differing, even contradictory conclusions, would all be equally right and true. That is patently absurd, as Truth is indivisible.

The Church's terms on morality are now to be authoritatively stated in the new encyclical, addressed especially to the bishops. Their duty is clear; support it unequivocally and be prepared for antagonism both from Catholics who have surrendered their Catholic identities and consciences and from an unsympathetic media.

Yours sincerely,
DAPHNE McLEOD
(Chairman, Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice),
4 Fife Way, Great Bookham, Surrey,
August 9.

From Mr R. M. Sandford

Sir, The draft of *Veritatis Splendor* restates — and perhaps enlarges — the Roman Catholic Church's doctrine of infallibility, claiming it for the *magisterium*, the Pope (the successor of Peter) and for the bishops (the successors of the apostles).

Child benefit

From Ms Sally Hawkins

Sir, Yet again child benefit is under scrutiny (report, August 10) as a universal payment to mothers. Time and again the arguments have been put, and won, that this benefit is extraordinarily effective in doing the job it has been set — working for the benefit of the nation's children.

Means-testing the benefit would impose all the problems of complexity and lack of take-up which are so familiar with income support and family credit, and would deprive low-income families of one solid stepping stone out

Royal rights

From Mr Donald Foreman

Sir, Before the monarchy could be restored in Italy ("Kingmaking in Belgium starts Italy dreaming", August 9) article XIII of the Italian constitution, which forbids Prince Vittorio Emanuele or his son even to set foot in their homeland, would have to be repealed.

I wrote to Jacques Delors, EC President, whose office replied this week with a list of directives confirming the entitlement of nationals to free movement within, and between, EC countries.

However, the letter concludes: "Any problem will need to be resolved

surely a third great theme should be a democratic Europe, as urged by Chancellor Kohl? The Maastricht saga across the EC shows the dangers of governments acting without gaining popular support.

After 14 years in the European Parliament I see only too clearly the perils of leaving certain matters (the CAP is an admirable example) to national and EC bureaucrats and ministers effectively unconstrained by any parliament, and the contrasting benefit of more effective European parliamentary control, as in the single-market programme.

Westminster and Strasbourg must learn to work more effectively together in the democratic interest of controlling the Council of Ministers. It is a convenient smokescreen to concentrate on the Commission, while ignoring the fact that the many EC laws passed with only a single reading in the European Parliament escape effective control from any national parliament.

A sort of subsidiarity must operate here too. If (and only if) national parliaments cannot exert effective control because power has been removed to European level and rests with ministers and national bureaucrats, then democratic control should be exercised by the European Parliament. The Maastricht co-decision procedure points the way.

"Intergovernmentalism" is the Foreign Office's current leitmotif, but this, understandably enough from bureaucrats, will not be adequate for Europe's future challenges. Adding the grand theme of parliamentary democracy will improve both Britain's credibility and our chance of success.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER JACKSON,
8 Wellmead Drive, Sevenoaks, Kent,
August 6.

From the Chairman of the Conservative Group for Europe

Sir, The article by Sir Michael Butler, restating the case for the hard ecu ("An easy price to pay for proper unity", August 10), presents the government with a dilemma that should not be hard to resolve. The prime minister should grab the initiative now, lest our European partners again move forward without us.

Whatever central bankers and economic theorists may say, the devel-

opment of European monetary union will be based on political judgments. Britain has been disadvantaged in this by the Maastricht "opt-out" and Black Wednesday. A British initiative now could resolve the forces in Europe calling for faster integration and those who believe in purely market solutions.

The European Monetary Institute could (without treaty amendment) be elevated from its coercive role to that of a monetary authority managing the hard ecu. A side effect would be a clear demonstration that there is no democratic evil in an independent central banking institution pursuing the goal of sustained economic growth in a non-inflationary environment, with its own sound money as an example to us all.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT WALTER,
Chairman,
Conservative Group for Europe,
110 Grosvenor Road, SW1,
August 10.

From Mr Peter Asquith-Cowen

Sir, I am an historian and a teacher. Like Sir Edward Heath ("Speculators cannot break us", August 4) I believe that businessmen and professionals want to see not only a common currency but also common standards. The social chapter is intended, in my opinion, to benefit employers and employees. The German economic miracle was achieved by compromise, not by confrontation.

Norman Lamont's *schadenfreude* (letter, August 5) is going to be at our (the taxpayers') expense. The collapse of the ERM is a brief hiatus.

I am in my early forties. The kind of future I want to help shape is in line with Sir Edward's vision. A single currency will facilitate business, tourism and international markets. Mr Lamont's short-sighted policy would be damaging for Britain.

Sir Edward has made it quite clear. Far from stepping back from closer union, the events of the last few days make it more imperative and more essential. The collapse of the ERM is only the beginning. Well said, Ted!

Yours sincerely,
P. ASQUITH-COWEN,
44 First Lane, Anlaby,
Nr Kingston-upon-Hull,
East Yorkshire,
August 5.

Double standards

From Mr James Macdonald

Sir, After independence the Indian army marched into the princely state of Hyderabad (Deccan), against the wishes of the Muslim ruler, the Nizam, but in accordance with the sentiments of the mainly Hindu population. The Indian army also occupied the greater part of Kashmir, in accordance with the sentiments of the Hindu maharajah, but against the wishes of the mainly Muslim population.

Since then Hyderabad has been at peace, but as your leader (August 12) points out Kashmir has endured a continuing reign of terror, while endemic war flickers along its borders. Does this carry a message for the rest of us — perhaps that double standards carry their own seeds of destruction?

Yours faithfully,
JAMES MACDONALD,
58 Clifford Avenue,
Taunton, Somerset,
August 12.

Checking the bill

From Mr Simon Brilliant

Sir, The practical consequences of *Pepper v Hart*, which allowed reference to Hansard in interpreting statutes, are daunting. Mr David Bean (letter, August 4) points out that only a small number of MPs can take part in a bill's committee stage. But what is said there may be important.

The committee stage of a bill is not reported in the main series of Hansard but in a separate series. This is much less available than the main series — I am told no library in the Inns of Court holds a report of a committee stage before the session 1987/8.

Yours faithfully,
SIMON BRILLIANT,
1 Temple Gardens, Temple, EC4,
August 4.

Jobs for the boys?

From Mr A. V. Knight

Sir, An interesting advertisement appeared in The Times on August 3 in which the Temple chambers of a Queen's Counsel called for "applications from established practitioners of 5-12 years call to join its busy and expanding criminal team".

What sorts of CVs will be received, I wonder?

Yours faithfully,
A. V. KNIGHT
(Director of Studies),
Henley Management College,
Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire,
August 4.

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Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-762 5046.

SOCIAL NEWS

Reception

British Safety Council
Mr James Tye, Director General of the British Safety Council, was host at a reception held yesterday at the Royal Overseas League for the presentation of international diplomas in safety management. The High Commissioner for Pakistan and other members of the Diplomatic Corps were among those present.

Institute of Physics

Professor Arnold Wolfendale, of the Department of Physics, Durham University, the Astronomer Royal, has been elected as president of the Institute of Physics, to take office from October 1, 1994.

Today's royal engagement

The Duke of York will visit Thurso Golf Club at 11.10.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: James Gillray, caricaturist, London, 1756; Queen Adelaide, Consort of King William IV, Meiningen, 1792; Sir George Grove, engineer and editor of the music dictionary bearing his name, London, 1820; Annie Oakley, rifle marksman, Ohio, 1860; John Nicholson Ireland, composer, Bowdoin, Cheshire, 1879; John Logie Baird, pioneer of television, Helensburgh, Strathclyde, 1888; C.R.W. Nevinson, painter, Hampstead, 1889; Sir Alfred Hitchcock, film director-producer, Leytonstone, London, 1899; Sir Basil Spence, architect, Bombay, India, 1907; Archbishop Makarios III, Primate of the Orthodox Church of Cyprus and President of the Republic of Cyprus, Paphos, 1913.

DEATHS: Jeremy Taylor, 1676; René Laennec, physician, Kermouan, France, 1826; Eugène Delacroix, painter, Paris, 1863; Sir John Millais, 1867; President of the Royal Academy 1896, London, 1896; Ira David Sankey, evangelist, 1908; Florence Nightingale, hospital reformer, London, 1910; Jules Massenet, composer, Paris, 1912; H.G. Wells, writer, London, 1946.

Cape Colony ceded to Britain, 1814.
Wagner's *Der Ring des Nibelungen* was first performed in its entirety, Bayreuth, 1876.
Construction of the Berlin Wall was started, at first with barbed wire, 1961.

Birthdays today

Miss Sheila Armstrong, soprano, 51; Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Beavis, 64; M Jean Borotra, tennis player, 95; Sir John Bunting, civil servant, 75; Marquess Camden, 63; Dr Fidel Castro, President of Cuba, 66; Father Leo Chamberlain, headmaster, Ampleforth College, 53; Mr Roy Evans, trades unionist, 62; Mr Ben Hogan, golfer, 81; R.D. Jackson, cricketer, 48; Sir Thomas Legg, QC, permanent secretary, Lord Chancellor's Department, 58; Mr C.A. Lyons, trades unionist, 64; Sir John Milne, former chairman, Blue Circle, 80; Lord Sainsbury, 91; Dr Frederick

Forthcoming marriages

Captain R.A. Graham and Miss K.J. Morris
The engagement is announced between Captain Robbie Andrew Graham, second son of Mr and Mrs Arthur Graham, of Oxford, and Karen Jane, daughter of Mr David V. Morris and the late Mrs Jean Morris, of Budleigh Salterton, Devon, formerly of The Glen, Heaton, Bolton.

Mr R.J.E. Osborne and Miss R.U.F. Reed
The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mr and Mrs James Osborne, of Wellington, Somerset, and Rebecca, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Reed, of Claydon, Devon.

Mr P.R.H. Water and Miss L.R.H. Shiel
The engagement is announced between Peter, younger son of Dr and Mrs Michael Winter, of Cirencester, Gloucestershire, and Rachel, daughter of Mr and Mrs Leslie Shiel, of Strabane, co. Tyrone.

Marriage

Mr A.C. Robinson and Miss S.C. Hecks
The marriage took place on Saturday, August 7, 1993, at the Church of St Peter's, Emphingham, of Mr Andrew Robinson, of Bellingham, Northumberland, and Miss Sarah Hecks, of Gt. Northamptonshire.

Alfredo A. Ricart

A memorial service in thanksgiving for the life of Alfredo A. Ricart, GCVO, will be held at St Stephen's Church, Gloucester Road, London, SW7, on Wednesday, September 22, at 10.30am. All are welcome to attend.

Royal visits

The Queen will be represented by Prince Edward at the celebrations to mark the 25th anniversary of the independence of Swaziland on September 4.

The Princess of Wales will visit Luxembourg on September 17.

Institute of Marine Engineers

The following have been elected Fellows of the Institute of Marine Engineers and are entitled to use the designatory letters FIMarE: B.J. Black; R.M. Bradley; Yoo Sang Choo; J.S. Dhooi; J. Dur; D.S. Gooder; S. Hall; L. Dm; H.C. Howard; R. Ives; M.M. Rees; A.P. Roskilly; Kai Sing Siu; C. Stansfield; S.C. Sumon; Cmdr J.A. Trewby, RN.

Sound investment

A circular tape gramophone Ecko radio set of 1934 which still works is expected to make about £30,000 at an auction in Ealing, West London, on September 14. It is believed to be one of only two in that shade produced at the time.



Marie Helvin, the model, is 41 today
Sanger, OM, Ch. biochemist, 75; Mr George Shearing, pianist, 73; Air Chief Marshal Sir Denis Smallwood, 75.



Shot in the dark: an astronomer in Salernes, southern France, searches for meteors, and, right, a 60-minute time exposure taken in Texas shows a meteor passing across the north star. The circular streaks are star trails created by the Earth's movement

Meteor show proves celestial flop

By Nigel Hawkes, Science Editor

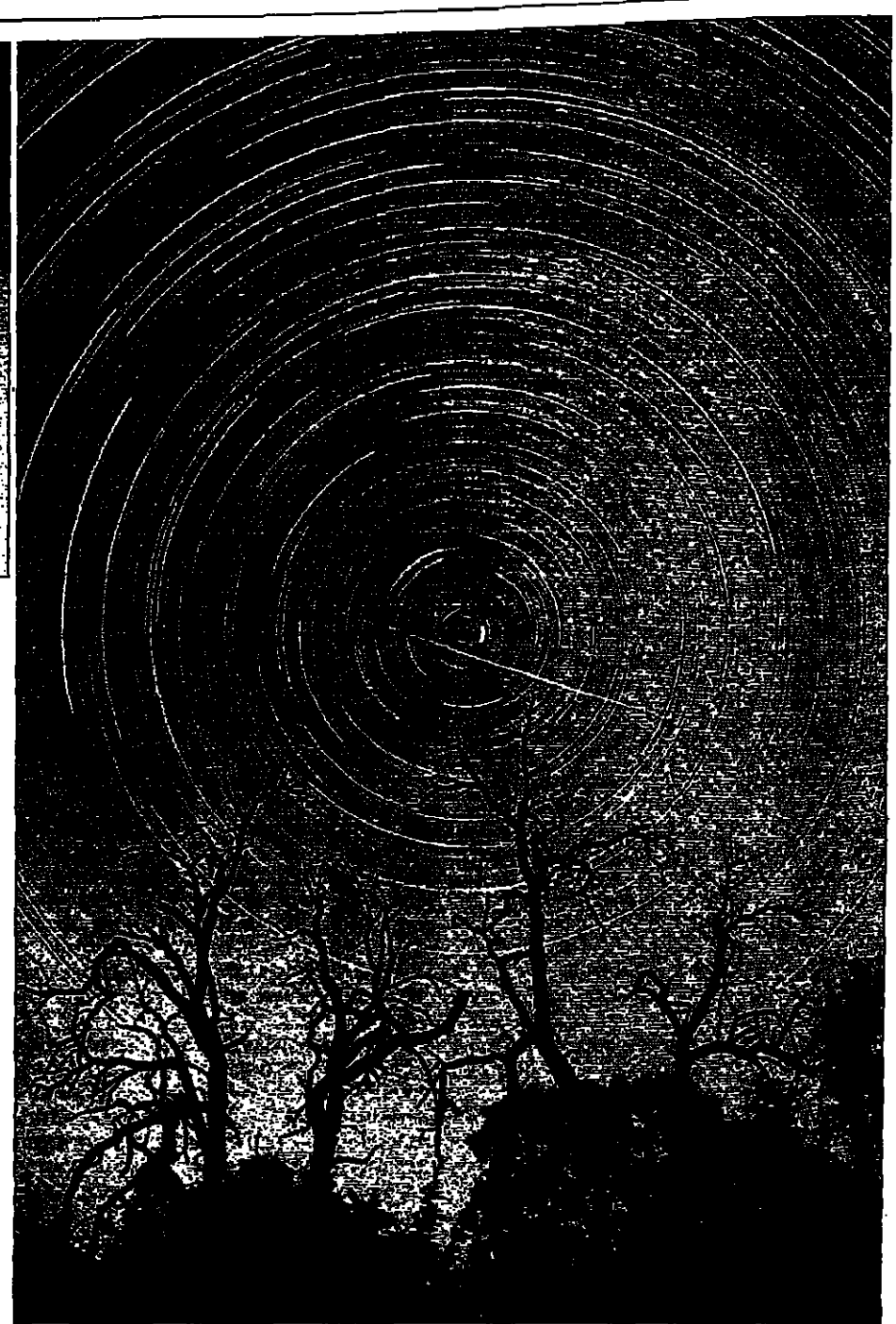
THE meteor shower of the century turned into a disappointment on Wednesday night as thousands of stargazers in Europe and North America were rewarded only with a view of dense clouds. Even those who could see anything reported a less than spectacular display, with hundreds rather than thousands of meteors appearing from the direction of the Perseus constellation.

Dr Jacqueline Mitton, of the Royal Astronomical Society, said an observer in Northumberland, where there was less cloud, spotted about 175 an hour, while sky watchers in France and Germany saw as many as 300. "It was still a good show," she said. "In a normal year you are lucky to see 50. It

was a heavy shower rather than the storm that some predicted. The fall was quite light compared to the Draconids storm in October 1993 when meteors rained down at a rate of 300 to 1,000 per minute. More recently, in November 1996, the Leonids storm peaked at 2,000 a minute. Experts had said in advance that there was a good chance of disappointment. "All meteor showers are like blind dates. You never really know what you're getting unless you're face to face," said Jack Horkheimer, director of the Miami Space Transit Planetarium.

But observers in the US at least did better than the veteran astronomer Patrick Moore, who had the worst of

the weather for his home in Selsey, West Sussex. "I can't see a thing," he said at what should have been the height of the shower. "It's most annoying. I've all my equipment with me here, but it's very cloudy." Many astronomers were out again last night, as there is always some doubt about precisely when the shower will peak, and the weather forecast was much better. The display is caused by the Earth crossing the trail left by comet Swift-Tuttle, and was expected to be especially bright this year because the comet has recently passed close by the Earth, which ought to have meant that we would transit the densest region of dust close to the comet.



Building threatens bird feeding ground

By John Lewis

THE Environment secretary is being asked to choose between protecting 45 acres of bird feeding grounds off the Isle of Sheppey and a £1.5 billion plan to expand port facilities and bring business and housing to that part of Kent.

The project fits with the government's East Thames corridor strategy, but would affect an important winter habitat for waders and other birds on mudflats off Sheerness and could lead to a challenge in the European Court of Justice.

Michael Howard, then environment secretary, turned down a proposal by the developers Lionhope to build on both sides of the Swale on environmental grounds last year, but since then developers, backed by Citibank, have produced a new scheme. This is intended to meet the objec-

tions of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds by dropping proposals to develop a number of environmentally sensitive sites.

The Citibank team has also agreed in principle with the Department of Transport to contribute up to £10 million towards the £70 million cost of a high-level bridge over the Swale in return for a new road system linking the bridge and the heavily used A249 to the M2. The A249, which is at present carried over the Swale by a swing bridge, is said to take more traffic than the M20.

However, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds is strongly opposed. Chris Corrigan, its conservation officer for the South East, said that the developers did appear to be "moving to a more acceptable solution" for parts of the site, but the society's objections to the reclaiming of the Lappel Bank mudflats off

Sheerness stayed. "In wildlife terms, this is an extremely important site. The mudflats support feeding wading birds and wild fowl which come to the Medway estuary in winter and in migration," he said.

The RSPB was asking the present environment secretary, John Gummer, to revoke planning permission already granted for the reclaiming of the 45 acres. English Nature wanted the department to embrace them in a Medway estuary area of special scientific interest and to designate them a special protection area under the EC birds' directive and as a wetland of international significance.

Mr Corrigan said that if the revocation was refused, the RSPB would look at other ways of continuing the fight, possibly by appealing to the European courts that the UK was in breach of international commitments. Ken Caesar, of surveyors

Richard Ellis, who is advising the development team, is emphatic that the mudflats must be included. "Revocation of planning permission would be a death blow to what we seek to do. The 45 acres are an integral part of a larger site, other parts of which have already been reclaimed," he said. "We believe the newly fashioned project would attract essential inward investment to this part of Kent and it is critical in the context of the government's own East Thames strategy." The area was given a boost last month by the award of assisted area status.

He said that the original proposals had been scaled down: "We have taken out 240 acres from the newly designated area of special scientific interest and used instead other land at the southern end of the Riddham site and at Neats Court, already zoned for development."

Getty trust invests in New World's past

By Norman Hammond, Archaeology Correspondent

THE J. Paul Getty Trust, noted for its interest and investment in the art of the Old World, has teamed up for a project in New World archaeology.

With Dr Richard Leventhal of the University of California at Los Angeles and the government of Belize, the trust is funding the restoration of the ancient Maya centre of Xunantunich, on the border between Belize and Guatemala.

The principal structure at Xunantunich, a small city which was founded around 500 BC but flourished principally between AD 850 and 900, is a high temple known as "El Castillo", the castle, from its dominating location on a hilltop overlooking the valley of the Mopan river.

The site has long been accessible to tourists, and as the "Ruta Maya" initiative linking the five Central American countries that have ancient Maya ruins develops, the Belizean government wants to give it a higher profile on the tourist circuit.

Dr Leventhal has carried out two seasons of investigation to unravel the complex architectural history of the site centre, and has also cleared a previously known but unexplored zone of settlement from the tropical undergrowth to spread the tourist load across a larger area.

The Getty Conservation Institute has been involved with laboratory analysis of stucco, plaster and limestone from Xunantunich, prior to conservation of masonry and an elaborate stucco frieze symbolising the Maya cosmos. It has also tested biocides to control lichens and algal growth, and chemical consolidants for use in tropical environments. The institute is also providing an architectural conservator to advise Belizean on procedures, and will be training Belizeans in conservation and site management techniques.

Remains of some of man's earliest ancestors have been found on a new site in South Africa, the first such discovery for 45 years. Two teeth have been identified as probably belonging to *Australopithecus africanus*, a precursor of *Homo* who flourished in eastern and southern Africa between two and three million years ago.

The teeth, found at Gladysvale Cave near Johannesburg, date to between 1.7 and 2.5 million years ago. Other bones from the cave include 31 species of antelope and the almost complete skeleton of a wolf-like animal. In its stomach was a seed from a tropical palm. The faunal and botanical evidence together suggest that the *Australopithecus* lived in a tropical savannah with forest and open water near by.

Church news

Next Dean of Lichfield
The Rev Canon Tom Wright, Chaplain of Worcester College, University of Oxford, and a Canon Theologian of Coventry Cathedral, is to be Dean of Lichfield, succeeding the Very Rev John Lang, who is resigning from December 1. Archdeacon of Wells to retire The Ven Edward Thomas, Archdeacon of Wells, diocese Bath and Wells: is to retire from September 30. The Rev Preb Richard Ackworth, Vic-

ar, St Mary Magdalene, Taunton, is to assume the post.

Other appointments
The Rev Terence Atkinson, Assistant Curate, Botesford and Ashby, Southwiche, to be Team Vicar, St Francis, Cleethorpe (Lincoln).

The Rev Peter Aves, Curate, St Peter's, Chertsey (Guildford); to be Rector, Stockbridge and Longstock and Leckford (Winchester).

Latest wills

Li Col Sir Martin John Gilliat, retd, of London SW1, late of Welwyn, Hertfordshire, Private Secretary to the Queen Mother from 1956, left estate valued at £1,341,258 net.

He left £500 each to the Celer Atax Club and the Rufford's Leas Society, both at the Celer Atax Club, Winchester, King Edward VII Hospital for Officers, London, £500 each, National Society for Cancer Relief, Injured Jockeys Fund, Friends of the Elderly and Save the Children Fund, and all his medals, orders, decorations and regimental insignia to the Royal Green Jackets Regiment.

Mrs Monica Enid Stratton, of Brighton, Berkshire, left estate valued at £438,971 net.

Li Col Sir William Malcolm Mount, 2nd Bart, of Aldermaston, Berkshire, left estate valued at £293,741 net. Mr Michael Alan Roberts, of St Austell, Cornwall, left estate valued at £90,017 net, to go to Children in Need (Cornwall).

PERSONAL COLUMN

BIRTHS

I am the Lord: the Lord is my name; I shall not yield my glory to another god, nor my praise to any idol. Isaiah 42: 8

DEATHS

BORNEHAM - Unofficially on 9th August 1993, Sir A.W. Borneham, "Arcturion", Stratford-upon-Avon (Oxfordshire) beloved wife of the late Sir A.W. Borneham, QC, died peacefully at home, aged 82. Burial at Stratford-upon-Avon Crematorium, 10.30am on Tuesday 17th August at 12 noon. Family flowers only, donations if desired to St Andrew's Church, Stratford-upon-Avon, on Tuesday 17th August at 12 noon. Private cremation.

KEYT - On July 31st, in the 93rd year of his life, the late Mr John Keyt, of 10, West Smithfield, London, died peacefully at home, aged 93. Burial at St Andrew's Church, Stratford-upon-Avon, on Tuesday 17th August at 12 noon. Family flowers only, donations if desired to St Andrew's Church, Stratford-upon-Avon, on Tuesday 17th August at 12 noon. Private cremation.

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MALLET - Born on August 9th 1905 to Juliette and Bernard Mallet, a daughter, Celia, a sister for Sonny.

KERRISH - On 11th August at the Portland Hospital, to Shanti and Simon, a daughter, Celia, a sister for Sonny.

NICHOLSON - On August 7th, to Margaret and Colin, a daughter, Celia, a sister for Sonny.

SCOTT - On 10th August, to Margaret and Colin, a daughter, Celia, a sister for Sonny.

SWA-JOTHY - On August 9th 1993 to Shanti and Simon, a daughter, Celia, a sister for Sonny.

STONEY-WALTON - On July 25th, to Doune and Robert, a daughter, Celia, a sister for Sonny.

SYNGE - On August 9th, to Shanti and Simon, a daughter, Celia, a sister for Sonny.

MARK - A son, Patrick James, a brother to Celia.

DEATHS

MANN - Born 13th August 1903, peacefully after a long illness bravely fought. Sadly missed by his family and friends. Burial at Stratford-upon-Avon Crematorium, 10.30am on Tuesday 17th August at 12 noon. Family flowers only, donations if desired to St Andrew's Church, Stratford-upon-Avon, on Tuesday 17th August at 12 noon. Private cremation.

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DEATHS

REYNOLDS - Rhoda (Mrs Mary) Reynolds, nee (Mrs) Mary Reynolds, of 10, West Smithfield, London, died peacefully at home, aged 82. Burial at Stratford-upon-Avon Crematorium, 10.30am on Tuesday 17th August at 12 noon. Family flowers only, donations if desired to St Andrew's Church, Stratford-upon-Avon, on Tuesday 17th August at 12 noon. Private cremation.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

GENERAL - Mr E.A. Markham, of 10, West Smithfield, London, died peacefully at home, aged 82. Burial at Stratford-upon-Avon Crematorium, 10.30am on Tuesday 17th August at 12 noon. Family flowers only, donations if desired to St Andrew's Church, Stratford-upon-Avon, on Tuesday 17th August at 12 noon. Private cremation.

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TICKETS FOR SALE

TICKETS FOR SALE
When responding to this advertisement, please state the name of the ticket holder, the date of the event, and the name of the venue. Tickets are available for sale at a discount of 50% off the face value. All tickets are subject to availability. For more information, please contact the ticket holder.

ALL TICKETS
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All Theatre, 12, Avenue, New York
Last Night Proms
Wanted
All Spring & Fall Out Events
071 287 2701
071 287 2702
Fax 071 734 0660

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NEWS

Airlift of Sarajevo children delayed

Wounded and traumatised children continued to wait in Sarajevo last night as the United Nations admitted that the planned RAF airlift to treatment and safety is unlikely to happen before Sunday at the earliest. The UN last night denied that red tape and inertia had prolonged the children's ordeal. Peter Kessler of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in Sarajevo, said: "It's a mammoth job because only four of the individuals on our list have telephones". Pages 1, 3, 7

Children feared drowned

Three schoolchildren on an air cadet summer camp were feared drowned last night after an RAF Wessex helicopter in which they were flying for "air experience" plunged into a lake in north Wales. A fourth cadet, a 16-year-old girl, survived along with the three-man crew. Pages 1, 2

Top police may resign

Chief constables from Derbyshire, Avon and Somerset and Dyfed-Powys have joined the head of the Royal Ulster Constabulary in saying they would consider their future if the Sheehy report on police pay and conditions is implemented. Page 1

Bomb intercepted

Police in Northern Ireland intercepted a massive IRA van bomb yesterday, bringing the quantity of explosives recovered in the province in the past month to about 11,000lbs. The device weighed 3,000lbs. Page 3

Hot farmer jailed

A farmer was sent to prison for three weeks yesterday for harassing a retired army major with whom she had become infatuated. Even the prospect of jail did not seem to lessen Rosemary Cook's admiration for Major John Allen, who was in Truro Crown Court to watch her sentenced. Page 3

New care measures

Virginia Bottomley, the health secretary, announced plans to ensure closer supervision of severely mentally ill people living in the community. Patients considered a danger to themselves or to others will only be discharged from psychiatric hospitals on certain conditions. Page 3

Fearless surgeon

Tony Redmond, the surgeon who leads the British medical team on the rescue mission to Sarajevo, is no stranger to the horrors of war in Bosnia. He led a medical team there last year and won a reputation for bravery. Page 3

Clouds disappoint stargazers

The meteor shower of the century turned into a disappointment on Wednesday night as thousands of stargazers in Europe and North America were rewarded only with a view of dense clouds. Even those who could see anything reported a display that was much less spectacular than the Draconids storm in 1933. Page 14



Righteous anger: African National Congress supporters demonstrating yesterday at a funeral in Tembisa. De Klerk challenged, page 9

Markets

The FT-SE 100 Index continued its record rise, rising 3.0 points to 3009.1. Sterling's trade-weighted index fell from 80.8 to 80.3 reflecting a slide from \$1.477 to \$1.4593 and from DM2.5309 to DM2.5169. Page 22

BCCI trial: Two jurors in the trial of an alleged Central American figure in the BCCI collapse were dismissed. Page 19

More jobs: Unemployment rose unexpectedly last month according to new government figures yesterday. Although the increase was small at 200, the rise after five months of consecutive decreases is a blow to hopes for a sustained economic recovery. Page 1, 19

Golf

Barry Lane shot a first-round 67, four under par, to move within a shot of the early leaders in the US PGA tournament in Toledo, Ohio. Laura Davies, his British compatriot, took the lead in the British women's open at Woburn with a first round of 69. Page 30

Cricket: Michael Vaughan scored a spectacular century as England reached 243 for four on the first day of the first under-19s Test match against West Indies at Trent Bridge. Page 34

Football: Graeme Souness survived a torrid time as Liverpool manager last season but is confident the tide has turned in his favour. Peter Ball reports. Page 32

Reporting Latin America

A bomb had exploded at a press conference: three reporters were dead, two dozen injured. Page 10

Tricks of the trade: If you are an international superstar and sex symbol, why would you wish to pay \$1500 to have sex with one of Heidi's prostitutes? Page 10

Valerie Grove: "I am a product of a strict colonial education, which was worth its weight in gold. I find the press much less well-educated than I am." Valerie Grove meets Bernie Grant. Page 11

Two pages of news and career opportunities. Pages 25/26

Edinburgh exhibitions

The official Edinburgh Festival has virtually ignored the visual arts, but the city's big museums and galleries have mustered a formidable array of art, from Holbein to the Russian avant-gardists. Page 27

McCowan's Prospero: Sam Mendes's new RSC production of *The Tempest* takes an unromantic view, with Alec McCowen as a Prospero who has no control over human behaviour. Page 28

Rock on Friday: The Germans call it "electronic mind music". To the Japanese it is "brain music". Here it is described as "ambient". Submerged in a flotation tank. David Toop reports. Page 29

TV LISTINGS

Prince Charles's contribution to organic farming is the subject of *Survival Special: Highgrove - Nature's Kingdom* (ITV 9.00pm), a documentary filmed over a period of 18 months by Maurice and Carol Tibbles. Page 26

Reinforcing recovery

Yesterday's disappointing economic figures show the economy remains in recession. Kenneth Clarke is well advised to keep his powder dry for the time being. But if the economic weakness continues, the case for a cut in interest rates before the budget will become irresistible. Page 13

Playing with fire

The "strangulation" of Sarajevo which Nato has staked its international credibility on preventing began months before the fall of Mount Igman. On no account must Nato play the Bosnian Serb game, to argue for a stay of execution. Page 13

Faith in pluralism

The Pope's meeting with President Clinton yesterday, was a symbolic encounter between two generations and two radically opposed cultures. Page 13

BERNARD LEVIN

I want someone to seek out the premises of a particular business, and go right round the building, smashing every window in the place. That done, I want the doors broken down, piled up and burned. Next, I want my visitor to enter the building and break up all the filing cabinets. Page 12

LIBBY PURVES

Peter Lilley's indication that employers should pay for 10 per cent of increased maternity benefits will hit all working women. Page 12

Correspondents' views on the use of force against the Bosnian Serbs

Whatever its incompetence, its excessive bureaucracy, its failures, no institution has ever gone further than the European Community. The peoples who have not tired of killing one another find it natural to submit to its arbitration. Page 13

Mr Foster's fate arouses an ineffable sadness. But he was right to say that the meanness of public life transcended his own situation.

— *Le Monde*

— *The Washington Post*

THE TIMES TOMORROW

Tennstedt's finest hours

"Fate has battered Klaus Tennstedt, but only made him stronger as a musician" — Richard Morrison profiles the great conductor, and *The Times* CD Direct offers four superb recordings at reduced prices

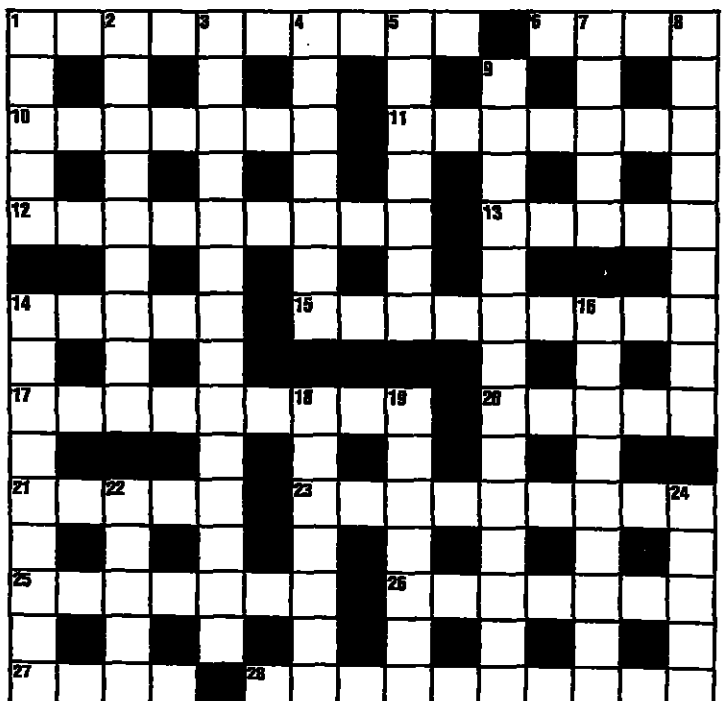
How to be cool by the pool

Joe Joseph has reached an understanding with fish — they stay out of his area, he stays out of the water

French holidays offer

Half-price Hoverspeed Channel crossings, savings on Europ Assistance car insurance, and the last token to collect to claim the Relais & Chateaux discount in the Weekend section

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,308



- ACROSS**
- Black bluff in obscure moorland (10).
 - A sporting occasion in some southern states (4).
 - Charge for conveying thick soup across the Spanish capital (7).
 - Foolish as a Dostoyevsky hero (7).
 - He exerts new Head of Military Intelligence in the Orient (9).
 - Shelter mostly made of small stones (5).
 - Simple scheme to protect island (5).
 - Rank individual entering resort by cart (9).
 - Outstanding screens for the protection of viewers (9).
 - The king may come back for the shellfish (5).
 - Endlessly suave French pope (5).
- DOWN**
- Cloak worn by babes, finally, in the wood (5).
 - Implore old boys to introduce City levy (9).
 - One constantly under pressure to keep the transport going (4,4,6).
 - Push-sounding writer's most cherished possession (3,4).
 - Whoop it up, giving French king disturbed rest (7).
 - Player omitting both ends of works (5).
 - Prime example of a churchgoing character, he admitted (9).
 - Tingling in the legs also irritates (4,3,7).
 - Forerunner who swore in front of us when speaking? (9).
 - See red, say, about bill from planner (9).
 - Prospero's library was large enough for this territory (7).
 - Colourful, as you're said by some to be (3,4).
 - Frank's deliberate deception (5).
 - Twangy diction as a leading lady employs it (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 19,307

GAUGUIN SAWMILL
A PNOEIA TIA
BARNDANCE EVENT
BIES LMT
LASER EXCEPTION
EWNHSA
UNDERSTAMENT
AATIME
CONTRACTORIDGE
TUC
ARTICULAR OMPH
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IMAGO FLATIRON
CSUIIAONE
ABETTER DELETED

WEATHER

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent, Surrey, Sussex	702
Devon, Dorset & Cornwall	703
Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, Somerset	704
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East of England	713
Cambridgeshire & Norfolk	714
North East	715
North West	716
West of England	717
Wales & Wales District	718
Wales	719
Wales District	720
Wales District	721
Wales District	722
Wales District	723
Wales District	724
Wales District	725
Wales District	726
Wales District	727

Weathercall is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0300 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks	731
M25	732
M25 & M4	733
M25 & M42	734
M25 & M42 & M4	735
M25 & M42 & M4 & M1	736
National traffic and roadworks	737
Wales	738
Wales District	739
Wales District	740
Wales District	741
Wales District	742
Wales District	743
Wales District	744
Wales District	745
Wales District	746
Wales District	747
Wales District	748
Wales District	749
Wales District	750

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Wales District	747
Wales District	748
Wales District	749
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Scotland and Northern Ireland

will start mainly dry with sunny intervals. Cloud and rain will spread from northern Scotland to the rest of Scotland and Northern Ireland; eastern Scotland will stay dry. England and Wales will be dry with sunny spells, but cloud will build, especially in northwest England. Cold at first, then temperatures close to average. Outlook: Rain over Scotland dying out, then sunshine and showers everywhere.

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Optical computers:
wired to run at
the speed of light

In Edinburgh for
the festival: the
Queen's Holbeins

Davies sets
the pace in
British Open

THE TIMES

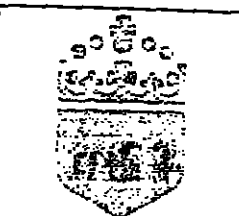
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FRIDAY AUGUST 13 1993

BUSINESS EDITOR
Robert Ballantyne

BUSINESS
TODAY

GOOD RUN

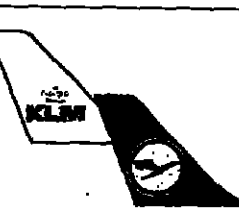


Royal Insurance
continued the run of
good figures this week
from the insurance
composites
Page 21

HUMMING

Rolls-Royce and
National Grid have
formed a joint venture
to sell power
transmission abroad
Page 20

DOGFIGHT



Lufthansa is trying to
prevent Austrian
Airlines joining an
alliance of KLM,
Swissair and SAS
Page 22

THE POUND
US \$ 1.4583 (+0.0184)
German mark 2.5169 (+0.0140)
Exchange Index 80.3 (-0.5)
Bank of England official base
(4pm)

STOCK MARKET
FT-SE 100 3009.1 (+3.0)
Dow Jones 3588.52 (+25.83)
Nikkei Ave 20785.28 (+32.71)

INTEREST RATES
London Bank Base 6%
3-month Interbank 5 1/4%
US Federal Funds 2 1/4%
3-month Treas Bills 3.01-3.00%
Long Bond 6.39%

CURRENCIES
New York: London:
£/\$ 1.4630 £/DM 1.4810
\$/DM 1.7200 £/DM 2.5168
\$/DM 1.5285 £/DM 2.2288
\$/Yen 6.0492 £/Yen 8.9460
\$/Yen 103.15 £/Yen 151.07
\$/DM 1.0547 £/DM 1.5175
London Forex market close

GOLD
London Fixing (8):
AM 375.35 PM 376.30
Close 372.60-373.35
New York:
Comex 373.55-374.05*

RETAIL PRICES
RPI 141.0 June (1.2%)
* Denotes midday trading price

Rise in jobless hits hope of steady upturn

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

UNEMPLOYMENT rose unexpectedly last month — stalling the downward trend in the number of people out of work, according to government figures yesterday.

Though the increase in seasonally adjusted unemployment was small, at 200, the rise after five months' consecutive decreases is a blow to business and ministers' hopes for a sustained economic recovery.

Whitehall officials were not placing too much emphasis on the slight increase in the number of people out of work and claiming benefit in July, and stressed that the government had repeatedly insisted that there might well be months, as the recovery got properly under way, in which unemployment would rise.

While government statisticians still believe that the overall trend in unemployment is down, they would make no forecasts — however tentative — for joblessness in the coming months after the total for July confounded City predictions of a fall of perhaps 5,000 by rising to 2,912,200.

But they pointed out that vacancies are high, manufacturing employment is increasing, the number of people coming off the unemployment count is rising and other economic indicators — leaving aside yesterday's output figures — are largely positive.

However, officials were prepared to admit privately that the increase in seasonally adjusted unemployment — usually seen as the best guide to the trend — was a surprise. While ministers pointed out that despite last month's increase, unemployment is still lower than it was eight

months ago, Opposition leaders said it was still 153,900 higher than a year ago.

Rises in July tend to be higher than other months, reflecting the impact of those school-leavers able to be included in the unemployment count.

Unemployment increased in the North, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland last month, but fell in every other region, with the biggest decreases in Yorkshire and Humberside and the North West. Headline, unadjusted unemployment — the actual number of people out of work

SHARES shrugged off concern about the rise in unemployment and a fall in manufacturing output, guessing that the figures make a base rate out more likely. The FT-SE 100 index ended 3 points up at 3,009.1, another high. Fears of a rate cut sent sterling sharply lower to 80.3 on its trade weighted index. Stock market page 22

— rose nationally by 64,324 to 2,929,344.

Long-term unemployment — people without jobs for more than a year — rose again, according to quarterly figures released by the employment department, but the rise of 6,000 was relatively low, taking the total to 1,081 million, while the number of people out of work for six months actually fell by 18,000 to 1,688 million.

The blow to recovery of higher unemployment was partially offset by better figures on both job vacancies and on employment. New vacan-

cies notified to JobCentres, which usually amount to about a third of those in the economy overall, rose by 5,600 to 189,500, their highest level for almost three years, while the stock of unfilled vacancies rose sharply by 7,900 — their highest level for 2 1/2 years.

Employment in manufacturing industry rose by 16,000 in the month to June in the largest monthly rise for six years, while on a three-month basis, manufacturing employment has now risen for two consecutive quarters for the first time since December 1988.

Average earnings increases fell again in June, new figures showed. Ministers took comfort in the still-improving position on earnings, where the level of increase is falling month by month to record lows for the past quarter of a century.

Ministers are hopeful that new figures to be released today on unit wage costs will show industry maintaining its overall increase in competitiveness as wages per unit of output in manufacturing continue to fall.

The underlying increase in average earnings for the whole economy fell from 3.75 to 3.5 per cent in June, provisional figures showed. However, the more detailed picture suggests a clear split, with earnings increases in manufacturing industry running at almost twice the level of those in the service sector.

Manufacturing earnings rises showed no change from the 5 per cent level they have been stuck at since February.

Leading article, page 13
Figures confused, page 23

Fall in output bucks the trend

By Janet Bush, Economics Correspondent

BRITISH manufacturing output fell by 2.1 per cent between May and June but statisticians insisted that June's performance merely compensated for what had been an inflated figure in May and that the trend is firmly upwards.

The Central Statistical Office said manufacturing output for the second quarter was 1.4 per cent up on the previous quarter and 3.1 per cent up on the same quarter a year ago and estimated that the underlying trend still indicates growth of about 5 per cent this year.

The last two months of

figures have been distorted significantly by the timing of the May bank holiday. Smoothing out this effect by taking May and June together, output continues on a gently upwards trend.

Nevertheless, there was disappointment in the City with these figures. Most forecasters had been looking for a decline in manufacturing output in June of nearer 0.8 per cent. Robert Lind of UBS said: "Despite the June collapse, manufacturing output remains on an upward trend. But these are the first signs that the rate of expansion in

manufacturing is easing off... the figures confirm our long-held view that the first quarter growth was unsustainable."

The mix of manufacturing output remains quite healthy from a long-term point of view, with investment goods production still outstripping output of consumer goods. Investment goods rose 2.4 per cent between the first and second quarters and were up 7 per cent on a year ago. In comparison, consumer goods showed only 1.4 per cent growth from the second quarter last year. Consumer goods

production continued to be dominated by a strong performance from car makers.

All manufacturing sectors, with the exception of food and drink, were up on the first quarter with the best performances scored by the metals and mineral and mineral products industries.

Industrial production in total, which includes energy production, was up 0.8 per cent between the first and second quarters, and up 2.8 per cent on the second quarter last year.

Tempus, page 23

Confidence on a monetary see-saw

You could hardly ask for a neater demonstration. Growth and industrial confidence peaked in early summer; financial asset prices peaked in March, and then declined until the end of April. Since then, as we learnt yesterday, output has been on what looks like a gently sloping plateau, and confidence has weakened steadily. The markets, following Harris's Law, have risen to new peaks.

Fundamentalists, who like to believe that there is an economic explanation for short-term asset price movements, may gnash their teeth, but it makes perfect sense. In the short term — and it often stretches out to what looks like the medium term — prices are driven not by news, but by money. The big picture is familiar. As spending on real investment falls and the government becomes the borrower of last resort, prices rise relentlessly, proverbially peaking with the peak in unemployment. That nearly came true in March. But the disappointments in the real economy since then have set off a second round. Investment spending is weakening again, rights issues to finance it have dried up, so prices get a new lift. If you doubt that it is as simple as that, look

at the numbers. Since March, the rise in the all-share index and the gilts index is virtually identical. This is the rising tide that lifts all boats.

This does not necessarily mean that the rise is unjustified on the fundamentals; money is about timing, and knows nothing about fundamentals. However, there is no need for investors to mimic this ignorance. The fact that prices tend to move ahead of the facts is a blessing; it gives investors time to decide just what the facts really are. The only difficulty is to shut one's ears to all the "explanations" constantly on offer from analysts and others security salespersons: profit forecasts derived by stockbrokers from rising equity prices, and falling inflation forecasts derived by the Bank of England from falling gilts. Equity salesmen should be treated with suspicion at all times; and the fact that the Bank of England has managed to reduce its short-term price forecast by about a full percentage point from one inflation report to the next casts doubt on everything it



ANTHONY
HARRIS

says, too. At bottom, we have two contradictory stories. One is that the recession has been so deep, and the recovery is so slow that inflation will fall lower and stay low. If that is true, gilts are still cheap — largely, the Bank of England might note, because it persists in running a buyers' market in long-dated stocks. The other story is that because inflation is low now, and competitiveness is high, the recovery will go from strength to strength, restoring not only output, but profit margins. That could make equities cheap, even on a price/earnings ratio of 20; but it would raise big questions about gilts.

The evidence for the gilts story is strong. The recovery has clearly slowed. Consumer confidence is still low — indeed, fear of unemployment is still rising — and wage increases are still slowing faster than expected. With construction still in a coma, export demand weakening, and growing hopes that the government deficit will come out well below

forecast, it is hard to see any inflationary push. The European dimension is especially important. Many of America's principal export markets are in the boom economies of Latin America. Result: recovery (just as Japan may get a lift from the South East Asian boom). We are shackled to the quarrelsome EC economy. We can win a larger slice since White Wednesday (a real piece of news that provoked a well-justified relative rise in equities); but the cake has gone sad in the middle.

The equity story is not so clear. The official figures may look good, but they are not supported by CBI surveys or chairman's statements. Beware of a market which tends to rise on (unreliable) statistics, but fall on company news. The international context, on the other hand, is bullish. British equity yields are still high by world standards; and if the British economy is becoming more like others (the fundamental gilts story), then yields should converge. Remember, too, the plausible theory that deregulation has caused a permanent rise in real interest rates. In that case, gilt prices could soon hit a ceiling, but equities could outrun the economy. Now take your pick.

Society to end insurance link-up

By Sara McConnell

THE Cheltenham & Gloucester building society, the sixth largest, is to stop selling endowment mortgages in November. It will not renew its five year agreement as an appointed representative of Legal & General when this comes to an end in November and will not become an appointed representative of any other life office.

Borrowers wanting an endowment will be told to go to an independent financial adviser. C&G says it is not going to set up its own life office or independent advice arm because it does not sell enough endowment mortgages to cover the cost of offering them.

The move is in stark contrast to most of C&G's competitors. Most building societies push endowment mortgages more heavily than any other sort because they earn a large commission for doing so. As a result, 69 per cent of mortgages sold are linked to an endowment, even though this is not always suitable. However, C&G said it did not need to earn commission on endowments because of its low management costs.

Only one in 12 of its 337,000 customers have an L&G endowment. Since May 1990, most borrowers have been offered either an interest only or repayment mortgage, neither of which needs an endowment.

Fixed rate mortgages are sold on a "no strings" basis, without the need for any sort of insurance. Most of the C&G's customers are what it describes as "more seasoned" borrowers who do not need endowments to cover mortgages.

The society said: "As a result, sales of endowment policies are comparatively low and certainly not of sufficient volume to justify the high compliance and training costs involved."

Jurors in BCCI trial dismissed

From Philip Robinson
in New York

TWO jurors hearing evidence against one of the alleged central American figures in the scandal of the collapsed Bank of Credit and Commerce International were dismissed yesterday.

One was dismissed after it was disclosed to the court that he might have been the target of tampering attempts; the other because her body language with the prosecution counsel was claimed to render her less than impartial.

The latest action comes after more than 21 weeks of evidence from 45 witnesses and hundreds of documents covering alleged share deals and agreements that took place more than 12 years ago.

Before the court is Robert Altman, 46, a Washington lawyer. Clark Clifford, 86, a former US defence secretary and an adviser to four Democratic presidents, is accused with him. He is recovering from open heart surgery and is expected to stand trial later.

Steve Hatala was relieved of his jury responsibilities after he told court officers that a friend had telephoned him and asked detailed questions about the case.

Within minutes of his dismissal, he told reporters outside the court that the prosecution had presented "a very poor case" and that some jurors "were thoroughly disgusted".

Janice Lathen, the second juror, was asked to leave after Gustave Newman, a defence lawyer, said that she had displayed favouritism to the prosecution by smiling at John Moscow, the lead prosecutor, and mouthing "good morning" to him. Mr Moscow would reciprocate the greeting, Mr Newman said.

Mr Moscow denied improper conduct, saying he routinely said good morning to all jurors to establish a rapport.

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In limbo: Edouard Balladur, left, and Edmond Alphandéry, finance minister

BY JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE French constitutional council has ruled the bill to create the Banque de France independent, a major plank of the French government's European policy and preparations for eventual monetary union, unlawful until the Maastricht bill is ratified by all 12 members of the European Community.

With the bill yet to be ratified by the German constitutional court, Banque de France independence remains in limbo. At the time when the abandonment of semi-fixed exchange rates has left the question of who controls monetary policy more important than ever, One French bank

economist said: "This means that French policy is in yet another instance dependent on what happens in Germany."

The decision of the constitutional council last Tuesday was not widely reported, even in the French press, dominated by the aftermath of the effective collapse of the exchange-rate mechanism. As an important plank of the drive by Edouard Balladur, the minister, to comply with the terms of the Maastricht Treaty, this setback comes as yet another embarrassment for French government policy.

The broad thrust of the

decision was that monetary policy cannot be passed out of political control to the Bank of France — the key aim of the movement towards central bank independence throughout Europe — until Maastricht has been ratified by Germany. Once this is done, the bill for Banque de France is likely to be re-presented to the French parliament in identical form to be voted on again.

Some economists said that the constitutional council decision will probably only delay independence for the central bank but still acknowledged that ratification by the German constitutional court is by no means certain.

BY PATRICIA TEHAN
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

NET asset value at Foreign & Colonial Investment Trust increased 35 per cent to 244.9p a share at the end of the first half of the year.

The net asset figure was 8.1 per cent higher than the 225.5 at the end of 1992. That compares with a 5 per cent rise in the FT-actuarial all-share index and a 4.7 per cent rise in Standard & Poor's composite index. F&C's share price rose 10 per cent in the same period.

The trust, the biggest in the UK, increased its consolidated net assets from £935.5 million in the second half of 1992, and £1.2 billion at the end of last year to £1.3 billion.

John Slater, chairman of F&C, said the increase reflected the trust's exposure to Far Eastern markets, a good performance by the UK portfolio and the beneficial effect of gearing in rising markets.

Short-term borrowings in the U.S. have increased from \$49 million to \$86 million. The first-half dividend has increased from 1.12 to 1.15p. Net revenue has been under pressure, but Michael Sclater said he expects, in the absence of unforeseen circumstances, to show a rise in earnings per share in the full year. Earnings in the half year fell from 2.31p to 2.26p.

Mr. Sclater said: "F&Cs in investment policy in Europe are based on the expectation of a fall in interest rates. In the US, he said: "Unless President Clinton can demonstrate something that can revive the economy, Wall Street may begin to falter. We expect European currencies to weaken in relation to the dollar."

THE social security department is to pay £67 million in limited national insurance rebates to 32,000 people who

contracted out of the state earnings related pension scheme but did not receive rebates. The 32,000 are those whose application forms to contract out went missing and have not been found. Consequently, rebates and incentives were not paid to insurance companies to be credited to individual pension accounts. The problem emerged in 1989-90, three years after it was made possible to contract out.

If their rebate had been properly credited, those who opted out would have received 5.8 per cent of their weekly earnings between lower and upper limits plus a 2 per cent incentive. The social security department says it will make payments of minimum contributions on the basis of certified lists from insurance companies. Insurance companies will adjust clients' rebates to take account of any loss of investment yield.

RUTLAND Trust, the cash-rich vehicle of Michael Langdon, a former partner at Price Waterhouse, has bought Benjamin

Shaw & Sons, the Yorkshire suit makers, has raised £5.69 million in cash, loan notes and shares. Rutland was initially contacted by Shaw to help raise fresh capital. The move gives Rutland 84 per cent of the business at first, with the balance going to the management. This last holding can be increased further, depending on future profits.

MOSAIC Investments is making a £2 million issue of unquoted convertible preference shares to provide working capital and fund expansion. The mini-conglomerate announced pre-tax losses of £1.98 million for the year to April 30, against profits last time of £3.87 million; there were further below-the-line losses of £12.3 million to cover earlier disposals. No dividend is being paid (3.75p). The shares, once over 350n, were becalmed yesterday at 17p.

LILLESHELL, the building products to plastics group, launched a £9.67 million rights issue to pay for the £6.25 million purchase of Chartadd and to eliminate borrowings. The 1-for-3 issue is at 125p a share. Chartadd is the holding company of St Helen's Glass, which, in the year to March 31, made taxable profits of £705,000. Lilleshall announced interim pre-tax profits of £1.82 million in the six months to July 2 (£2.06 million). The interim dividend is 1.7p (1.6p).

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Why the jobless figures continue to confound

Even if the recovery is under way, it still contains kicks for the government, employers, employees and jobless.
Philip Bassett reports

Government figures showing an increase in unemployment and a fall in factory output — both surprises in industry and its workforce — immediately raised a key question about the recovery: has it stalled?

Ministers tried to put a bold face on it. Stephen Dorrell, Treasury Financial Secretary, said of the output and unemployment figures that there was nothing in them to "invalidate the basic analysis which is increasingly widely shared for the British economy that the recovery we said would come is now getting under way".

David Hunt, the employment secretary, said there were "further encouraging signs" in the clutch of labour market figures, including unemployment, prompting Frank Dobson, his opposite Labour number, to refer to his predecessor in the job and say: "At least Gillian Shephard used to apologise when the unemployment figures went up. David Hunt says it's encouraging."

So-called "expert" analysts are of little help. After repeatedly and incorrectly insisting that the five months of falls in unemployment before yesterday's turnaround were against the trend, and that unemployment would start rising again, the consensus among City forecasters turned to predicting a fall in unemployment of 5,000 — just in time for it to rise.

On the face of it, an increase in unemployment of 200 when the total out of work is 2.9 million is barely worth noticing. But, led by John Major, ministers have placed great stock on the consecutive falls in unemployment since January, and, in any case, the bald rise disguises a great deal about what is happening to unemployment behind the main national figure.

Perhaps, most importantly, the 200 increase looks smaller than it actually is because of a fairly substantial revision to the previous month's figures. When the June unemployment figures were published, the seasonally adjusted number out of work and claiming benefit was put at 2,909,200 — a drop on the previous month of 7,600.

Yesterday's announcement sharply revised the June total to 2,912,000, making the fall in the month 4,800 — in other words, the decline in unemployment that month had been overestimated by 2,800. So that actual change in July is not 200 — but 3,000. On the same basis, taking account of the over-enthusiasm in the preliminary figures for June, some more particular unemployment figures within the total are startling. The employment department said that unemployment in the South East was down in the month by 200. Taking account of the previous month's revisions, it rose by 600.

Or take unemployment between men and women. Male unemployment fell 1,200, while female unemployment rose 4,200. Officials could offer no



"Encouraging signs": David Hunt, the employment secretary

explanation for this, other than that women might be giving up jobs as their children left school at the end of the education year. School-leavers were used as an example by the department in the one explanation it did offer for the nominal 200 rise, although most school-leavers in the 16- and 17-year-old age group, are ineligible for inclusion in the unemployment count.

There was no talk by officials in the department of the explanations favoured for the five months of falls in unemployment — a more flexible labour market, and re-hiring by companies who "over-sacked" last autumn. Some of these theories have been taken to near-fanciful levels of numerical precision by the economic train-spotter in the City, without having yet produced a single example of a company that has actually re-employed the people it fired last year.

There were some important indications in the blurred figures. Long-term unemployment — now hidden away by the government in the mass of monthly labour market statistics, rather than published separately each quarter — is finally showing some signs of easing.

The number out of work for more than a year is still rising — up in the three months ending in July to 1,081,000 — but the rise of 6,000 was the smallest for two-and-a-half years, while the total out of work for more than six months, but under a year, fell, by 18,000 to 1,688 million — a first fall since October 1990. Vacancies increased, while manufacturing employment again rose —

by 16,000, to 4.2 million — though these figures produced some scepticism in that they run counter to the recording and predictions of further, continuing falls in employment by reliable business surveys.

Whitehall officials said the employment increase was centred in such areas as electrical and electronic engineering, mechanical engineering, clothing and footwear, and rubber and plastics manufacturing, while employment in the energy and water supply sectors continued to fall.

In all this white-out of figures, canny employment analysts believe that a number of developments are going on in the shifting complexities of the UK labour market. First, that training programmes are probably not soaking up large numbers of the unemployed and accounting for the falls this year. The employment department's training figures are little short of a shambles now that responsibility for training has been devolved to the Training and Enterprise Councils, but such new figures as were released suggest that training is not the explanation.

Fewer people may now be in the job market, and careful employment analysts are increasingly favouring the idea that the number of so-called "discouraged" workers — those who stop looking for a job because they believe there is none — is rising, though this will not be provable until the government releases the latest quarterly Labour Force Survey, which tracks unemployment and employment in more sophisticated ways than the unemployment figures. What the LFS survey will also show is if there is any firm evidence for the growing anecdotally based conclusion that if any job growth has pushed down unemployment, it has been in part-time and temporary work.

As employers come out of a recession, their first move is to try to increase their productivity, so short-time working falls and overtime increases — precisely what has been happening, according to official figures. When that has reached its limit, and if orders are still rising, as CBI surveys suggest they are, but patchily, then employers will take on one or two on a part-time or temporary basis.

That may be where we now are, though the fall in overtime and increase in short-time recorded for June in the figures, coupled with the rise in unemployment, may show how nervous employers are about the strength of the recovery and how far Britain actually is out of recession, regardless of the pronouncements of ministers. Led by Mr Major, ministers have been careful so far this year, as unemployment has fallen, to include the caveat that it might not be a smooth path, that recovery could be bumpy, and that the figures were volatile and might fluctuate in any one month. At the same time they hoped that aspect of their predictions would be wrong.

But yesterday, in both unemployment and output, it proved to be painfully right — confirming the conclusion on this page in *The Times* this week that even if the recovery is on, it still contains a number of kicks for the government, employers, employees and the unemployed. Whether the recovery has stalled is still not clear; but the recession clearly has enough juice left in it to spark a few shocks yet.

TEMPUS

Bad news is good news

THE stock market's recent enthusiasm finally has a focal point. The sharp fall in manufacturing output in June confirms what many suspected — that Britain's economic recovery would falter sooner or later. This strengthens the case for the Chancellor to exercise his option on another rate cut, one that the FT-SE 100 index has largely discounted in the past week's hefty rise.

While much of the 2.1 per cent fall in output in June can be attributed to the timing of the Whitson Bank Holiday which boosted the May figure, at least 0.6 points of the downturn is a real reduction in output. The recession in France and Germany has taken its toll on exports while business confidence at home is not strong enough to encourage business to accelerate capital spending. Unless the picture brightens considerably this

month, which the latest CBI survey suggests is unlikely, there could be a fall in the current quarter. The pressure on Kenneth Clarke to order another rate cut will increase further next Wednesday if the retail sales figures for July are poor and there is no sign of pressure in the retail price index.

The gilt-edged and money markets are still less convinced about prospects for lower interest rates than equities. The short sterling market is trading at only a quarter of a point below the current base rates. This reflects investors' doubts that the government will countenance an August rate cut, rather than any conviction that it will defer the action indefinitely. The annual party conference season is a more appropriate time for an easing and as it approaches, fixed interest markets are likely to rise in anticipation.

Standard Chartered

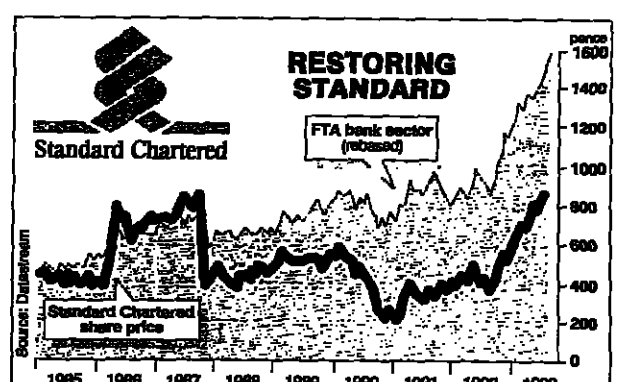
LOYAL shareholders in Standard Chartered, such as Lloyds Bank and Tan Sri Khoo Teck Puat, the Singaporean businessman, have been rewarded for their patience. In the past few months, the shares have risen above the 800p Lloyds offered for the lot seven years ago and, at 940p, show a comfortable premium.

The market has chased them in the belief that the bank is clear of its lending mistakes, and the potential of its franchise in Hong Kong and Southeast Asia will start to show through. This belief was partly justified by the 186 per cent rise in first-half pre-tax profits.

The market's difficulty is knowing how to value Standard Chartered if it is indeed

free from banana skins. With lower bad debts and a realistic tax charge, Standard is capable of making earnings of 150p a share. Despite their recent run, the shares trade on less than 6.5 times this ideal. On a similar calculation, NatWest's shares trade on more than eight times potential earnings.

This implies that Standard's shares are still cheap. But history shows the bank is inherently more risky than domestic institutions, with losses cropping up where least expected, such as last year's devastating fraud in India. Shareholders deserve higher rewards for the additional risks, as even the bank's own target for return on capital admits.



Royal

THE market hoped for a nice surprise from Royal Insurance. The strength of domestic lines and a pre-tax profit in line with forecasts was not enough to offset worries about reinsurance losses and lower investment returns.

Poor investment performance was due to falls in bond yields at home and in America. The US investment portfolio was hurt by redemption of bonds as issuers sought to take advantage of lower rates. If these are here to stay, insurers can no longer rely on healthy investment income to prop up underwriting losses.

First-half improvement rested on benefits of the rises in rates on personal lines. The promise of profits from a 20 per cent rise in big ticket commercial lines should come through from 1994. Any sign of undercutting in the market could spoil recovery but for the moment peace prevails.

reorganisation plans, it could not have found a better one than the profit warnings the luxury goods group keeps firing off.

Intimation that profits will not receive a £19 million gain from sterling's weakness due to the group's currency hedging policy is the third dose of cold water that the group has poured on its prospects this summer.

Dunhill's gloomy outlook gives weight to Richmond's argument that its private Luxco business, which it is injecting into Dunhill, has a higher quality of earnings and deserves to be valued on an earnings multiple of 18, almost a third higher than Dunhill. Institutions initially seemed displeased with the terms of the reorganisation, believing it too favourable to Richmond, and threatened to throw a spanner in the whole scheme. Now they are likely to accept eagerly.

Investors should not be fooled into thinking that Richmond is some kind of financial fairy godmother. The reorganisation leaves the company with direct majority control of all its tobacco and luxury goods interests

and £300 million cash to repay almost half of a loan note issue which becomes due next year, a windfall that will make all the expensive efforts worthwhile.

Smith & Nephew

THANKS to its concentration on the less glamorous end of the healthcare market, Smith & Nephew has outperformed the rest of the sector this summer, while giants Glaxo and Wellcome are buffeted by political squalls in America. The ructions in the sector have left S&N shares selling on a higher earnings multiple than either.

With margins maintained, sales and profits during the first half ran on parallel tracks. Stripping out currency effects, underlying growth in both was some 8 per cent, similar to the first half of last year. The City had been hoping for even more and profit forecasts have been trimmed to about £165 million. A medical stock that looks immune to heart-lurching downward plunges has attractions, but further advances may be limited.

Dunhill

IF Richmond needed a stick to goad Dunhill's minority shareholders to accept its

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

And then the fat lady sang

BRIAN Stein, the polo-playing entrepreneur who owns a string of London restaurants, has triumphed at last over his old adversary, the Royal Opera House at Covent Garden. Stein, whose restaurants in and about Covent Garden include PJ's, Maxwell's and the Roadhouse, is about to erase a notable landmark — the colourful mural adorning a wall at the Covent Garden piazza. The mural, Stein's idea, was topped by the plea: "Please help us stop the Royal Opera House demolishing these Georgian buildings and replacing them with an office block." Now, the Opera House has put its development plans on hold, and Stein, suitably placated, is scrubbing out his message. A new Maxwell's recently opened under the Opera House itself — a sign, perhaps, of the thawing relations between the pair — and the mural site now houses the Caffè Piazza ... yet another Stein restaurant.

Of one mind

DE BEERS is definitely not going to unlink its twinned shares, as unfounded stock market rumours would have it. Julian Ogilvie Thompson, chairman of related Anglo-American, told Anglo's annual meeting in South Africa yesterday. He added that he felt able to say that the chairman of De Beers (also himself), who had expressed these views on behalf of the board, had not changed his thinking either. Clearly a meeting of mind.

Bowled over

ENGLISH men beating Australia at cricket this summer? Surely some mistake. But it actually happened when the Securities Institute, the independent professional body for investment practitioners, took

on an Australian Brokers XI at the HAC Ground off City Road ... and won. Richard Smith, Australian High Commissioner in London, recovered from the shock sufficiently to present the trophy amid rumours that the match may become an annual event. Geoff Lawson, the New South Wales and Australia player, lent his support. The so-called "Financial Ashes", as the clash has inevitably been dubbed, raised more than £15,000 to be divided between United Kingdom and Australian charities.

Loss leader

GIVEN the troubles that Porsche, the Stuttgart-based high performance German carmaker, has been having during the recession, the name of the company's new production chief is unfortunate, to say the least. One would think that a man with as noble a handle as Wendelin Wiedeking the chairman, could have found someone with a more upbeat name than Herr (Uwe) Loss, who moves from Loehr & Brokamp, the engineering firm, to become the head of production at Porsche. On the aural upside, perhaps, is the departure of the company's sales director, Herr (Dieter) Laxy always sounded a bit too easy-going at a time of falling profits and turnover.

Boring note

IT'S SUMMER. This may explain the cryptic note from Rathbone Brothers, the private client banking group, which has landed on my desk captioned: From a boring company — a boring invita-

tion. Michael Bryant, Rathbone's jovial director, writes: "If Rathbone were a go-go company, continually bombarding you with news of our activities, then the least you could expect as an invitation to a briefing on our interim results would be a day out white water rafting or bungee jumping." Having caught my attention, the letter continues: "But it's Rathbone's ... And in any event, can you really imagine me white water rafting or bungee jumping?" Quite so.

Going bananas

THE European Community's new policy on banana imports, which came into force last month, has always been opposed by the Germans. They object to the way in which the rules are biased in favour of fruit from Caribbean, African and the Pacific producers. The Germans, with no colonies of their own, have, quite reasonably, preferred the cheaper, bigger "dollar" bananas from Latin America. But it is not only the German *hausfrau* who is likely to feel hard done by under the new EC regime. Christoph Scherper, the director of the Frankfurt Zoo, says that the higher cost of bananas has forced his keepers to reduce supplies to the monkey house. Even halving the amount of fruit will not be enough to offset the cost increase in the long run, he claims. EC policy has been known to make a monkey of the European consumer often enough, but now the even the apes are starting to suffer.

COLIN NARBROUGH

Why women struggle back to work

From Mrs K. M. Williamson
Sir, The spending of Government funds on training programmes for women returning to work is a complete waste of time.

I am a mother of two children and employ a full-time nanny for my children, now aged four and a half and eighteen months. My current boss, for whom I have worked for the past eight years, has no complaints.

So I am already in the workplace and am a highly skilled and highly qualified PA. However, I am unable to change jobs as employers will not consider a woman with "responsibilities". They cannot believe that I am ambitious and that I can combine working long hours with having a family to go home to. I

In search of an honest broker

From Mr Len Arrowsmith
Sir, Jim French (Business Letters, August 10) calls on the Building Societies Commission to veto the proposed Leeds Permanent and National & Provincial merger as against the public interest.

The commission often initiates mergers and is always involved at an early stage. It works closely with society directors and is the final judge on whether mergers should be approved.

In past mergers, it has approved democratic voting systems that have resulted in less than one per cent of eligible members voting. It has approved of one-sided misleading information being sent to members.

For the commission to change to an honest broker acting in the public interest would require it to accept that it had been captured by the industry bosses and had made mistakes in the past. That is unlikely.

Midland takes a slice of the piggybank action

From Mr Brian Willerton
Sir, In view of Midland Bank's recent announcement of healthy profit margin, I thought that you might be interested in my recent experience.

In common with many households, my wife and I keep a "piggybank". Recently I took the contents of this to a local branch of the Midland Bank (my own branch being some miles from where I live). I requested that my £80 in 5p's and 20p's should be changed into notes. I was asked to fill in

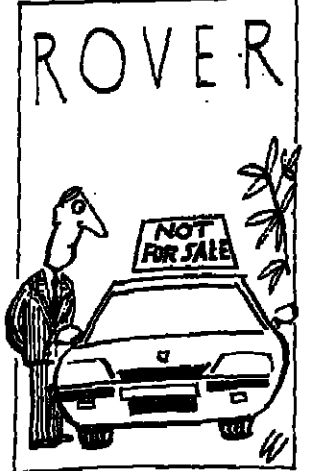
a form giving details of my branch (the Midland) and my account number. Imagine my surprise when I subsequently received my next statement containing a debit "cash exchange fee".

Perhaps the most amazing part, considering the amount of time and administration involved, was the amount I was charged — 2p!

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN WILBERTON,
22 Honeysuckle Close,
Hertford,
Hertfordshire.

Laughter lines

AN AMERICAN magazine by the name of *Men's Health* is attempting to lure business readers using the slogan "Tons of stuff for regular guys", a phrase it has taken the trouble to trademark. To prove its credentials, the magazine offers examples of articles it has published — each revealing a bizarre preoccupation with laughter. "Learning to laugh at yourself" in August 1990 was followed in October 1991 by "The health benefits of laughter" and, in May 1992,



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Specialist talent is going begging

Computer users are not getting the advice they need, because headhunters are overlooking the ready supply of skilled support staff. David Guest reports

The spread of personal computers throughout organisations in all sectors of the economy is creating a huge demand for IT support staff — specialists who can help the new classes of computer user make the most of the technology. But there is a risk that those best qualified to provide support to PC users — PC specialists — are slipping through the net of conventional recruitment structures.

The reason is precisely that their careers in IT are not conventional. In particular, many will have no specific experience of mainstream, mainframe data processing. That kind of experience — or its equivalent with minicomputers — used to be what was needed to be considered an IT professional.

"A headhunter knows what a programmer is and what an analyst is, but ask him what user support is and you'll get a blank look," says Simon Love, managing

director of Geneva Services UK, based in Brighton. His company does project work, distributes software tools and supplies permanent or contract personnel. Mr Love believes that a reservoir of talent is untapped because companies that need small-business system skills do not know where to look.

"Parity, it is a question of attitude," he says. "For example, if you say you have Apple experience, some people will think you are a hobbyist. But we were sent 45 CVs in response to an advertisement stipulating expertise in Hypercard, Apple's information handling system, and most turned out not to have full-time work. Some said it was difficult to get on to 'preferred-supplier lists' because they had no mainframe experience."

Preferred-supplier lists in this context are the lists of recruitment agencies and consultancies that companies choose to deal with to simplify the recruitment process.



Wasted skills: Simon Love, above, says ask a headhunter what user support is and you'll get a blank look

Mr Love believes such lists are doing both parties to the recruitment transaction a disservice. The companies are not finding the right candidates, and the candidates are not finding work. He says: "The preferred-supplier

list is the root of the problem. We have an overflow of very good PC and Apple networking specialists in the UK and the Benelux countries, and time after time we come up against preferred-supplier lists."

John Rushman, a freelance IT worker with seven years' experience of both sides of the recruitment process, confirms that these lists can work against employers. "There have been cases in which I have targeted certain companies that I wanted to work for and have

phoned their personnel department to ask which agencies were on the list," he says. "It turned out I was not registered with any, although I was eminently suitable."

Contractors can book with different agencies, but they still have to rely on the agency understanding their aptitudes and matching them with the right jobs. "On the permanent side," Mr Love says, "many companies stick to one or two headhunters who may be advertising in the wrong papers."

The justification for a preferred-supplier list is usually financial or administrative. Employers feel more secure dealing with large recruitment agencies with which they can develop a relationship. This sort of list is also, of course, simpler to administer. However, Mr Love argues, it inhibits innovation.

Simon Pettit, southern sales manager for Systems Resources, says that if there is a problem it is not insurmountable. "Yes, there is a danger of PC specialists being overlooked," he says. "There has been a tendency to take a rather blinkered view of people brought up on PCs. But the development of

technology, particularly local area networking, is changing that from the point of view of their credibility."

The big companies have developed from being mainframe-oriented to more distributed structures. They have large numbers of PCs that are used as intelligent workstations. The PC is now a vital piece of equipment in corporate accounts, and the PC support person is immensely important in the gap between the PC user and the mainframe.

Whether or not the right people are proposed for the right jobs, he adds, is a question of screening. Citing a case in which Systems Resources is one of six preferred-suppliers, he notes that the company is permitted to supply only two CVs for each vacancy that it is asked to fill.

"Of our database, we could probably submit ten or more," Mr Pettit says. "So we have to qualify them very carefully, for the sake of the contractor as well as the client." Mr Rushman agrees. "A lot of agencies are so keen to earn their commission that they are trying to shove square pegs into round holes," he says.

'Britain has an overflow of very good contractors'

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INFOTECH

The next generation of sets will be a world away from today's screens. Matthew May reports

How long can televisions continue to be so dumb? It is a serious question for companies planning the products that they will be selling in a few years' time and is based on a belief that the sort of changes coming to broadcasting will mean that copious amounts of computer power will have to be added to televisions to make them "smart".

The idea of smart televisions is also receiving wider attention because of the control it could give viewers. It could help them to censor violent television programmes and to cope with hundreds of channels which may become available.

Parts of the computer industry have long been tempted by the idea that computers and television will eventually merge into a single home entertainment and information unit. The industry could be given a new lease of life by providing products that may end up being used in, or at least on top of, millions of television sets.

Although there are already PCs that display television pictures, and "interactive" machines that can link CD-type players to a television, it is an industry very much in its infancy.

American televisions may, however, have to get smarter quite quickly. Last week a bill was introduced in the American Congress that would require all television sets sold in the country to have computer chips installed that would give parents the ability to electronically block their children from being able to watch violent television programmes.

If passed, the bill would require that broadcasters transmit signals recognised by the chip to notify it when a violent programme is being shown so that parents could instruct their sets not to show it.

Supporters of the bill say that the so-called V-chip will add only a few dollars to the cost of each set and that there is a precedent. New television sets in America already have to have a computer chips inserted which decode "closed captioning" on programmes — the American equivalent of teletext subtitles for the hard of hearing.

Such developments could be the tip of a technological iceberg. Among the ideas under investigation are voice-sensitive televisions that can be told to change channel or even what type of programme the viewer wants to watch. Significant interest is also being shown in "interactive"



Some may like it: interactive television makes products and services available in your living room

Time for TV to smarten itself up

television, where viewers can play along with game shows, judge contests, register opinions or obtain product information.

Interactive television in particular is being touted as a potential industry for the second half of the nineties that will rival that of personal computers in the eighties. It will start in America because providing interaction between a viewer and broadcaster is easier over cable, which is well established there. But cable television is growing in Britain and some interactive services will become possible with satellite and terrestrial broadcasts. Early systems are likely to use add-on boxes but, once established, could be built into televisions.

The BBC is already examining digital technology that could include the ability to stop broadcasts being received on television sets at houses without a licence.

Interactive television will also mean more people trying to sell you things. One of the more extreme plans for an interactive channel in America comes from the Los Angeles-based marketing company, Lincoln Mint. It is planning what it describes as a hybrid entertainment-and-shopping-television format "combining elements of classic variety shows with sophisticated product marketing techniques".

With this concept, viewers of its cable channel will see the lower third of their television screens taken up with icons representing various products and services, many of which will be "connected" in some way to the on-screen entertainment. "For example, if you are watching Marilyn Monroe in *Some Like it Hot* you can press a button and purchase a special gold

collectors' edition of her greatest hits," the company says. Or perhaps a copy of the dress she is wearing, the glasses the characters are drinking from — not to mention videos of Monroe's other films.

Using a remote control, viewers will be able to get further information about each of the products. A box called the Vault, which connects to viewers' televisions and phone lines will take credit card details and be able to print out hard copies of such items as voucher tickets and discount coupons, in the same way as a fax.

The move, in a few years, to the digital transmission of television channels will also require smarter sets. Digital compression allows far more channels to be broadcast in the space at present occupied by

More people will try to sell to you

Tests will start in 1995. Microsoft will be hoping that there will be a fortune to be made from royalties and licensing. The company already has an agreement with Intel and General Instruments to collaborate on a new machine that could be used for two-way interactive transmissions.

It is still a gamble as to whether people will be prepared to pay for all these new services. "There's no doubt that we could bomb. I could take this \$50 million a year and it could all be wasted," Mr Gates admitted.

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Britain could have over 100 channels

rate on a new machine that could be used for two-way interactive transmissions.

Chips not such a snip

PRICES of computer memory chips on the US spot market have risen sharply after an explosion last month that destroyed a Japanese factory which made 60 per cent of the world's semiconductor-grade epoxy resin.

Epoxy resins are used to make casings for semiconductors and must have exactly the right consistency, purity and heat properties to protect the fragile silicon-based circuits inside.

Sunimono Chemical says that it will not know until how long it will take to rebuild its Niihama plant, although industry analysts say they expect the factory to be closed for about a year.

Check this out

TIRELESS of slow supermarket cashiers? The answer could be a self-serve checkout system — and one that does not involve shoplifting. Four machines now let customers scan, weigh and pay for groceries at a supermarket in New York state.

Shoppers press a computer screen to deduct coupon discounts and make other decisions. The machines have \$5,000 items and prices on memory, and require an identity card for alcohol purchases.

The £16,000 system was in-



Car theft card

A SWEDISH professor whose stepdaughter died in a road accident has invented an electronic driving licence system which he believes could help to reduce drunk driving and car theft.

vented by Howard Schneider, who said it differs from similar ones used in Midwest America because his accepts money.

More channels

HUNGARY'S state-owned broadcasting company is to launch a ten transponder satellite to cover the whole of Europe and the Middle East, shortly before the 1996 Budapest Expo.

The satellite will transmit 16 television channels. It will start late in 1995 or early 1996, in time for the expo, entitled Transport and Telecommunications for a Better World.

Super link

INTEL and Unisys have teamed up to build a new line of supercomputers based on Intel's newest microprocessor, the Pentium chip.

Intel is already a big player in the scientific market with its Paragon line of supercomputers. But demand has been growing for the powerful machines in the business sector, including investment houses.

The two companies say they will build the computers using parallel processing technology, which involves chaining together a number of microprocessors to enhance computing power. With such systems, a customer can add computing power and capacity as needed.

Duty remains

EUROPEAN Community duties on computer floppy discs from Japan, Taiwan and China have been extended to October. The duties, which would otherwise have ended by now, range from 5 to 41 per cent and apply to companies such as Memorex, Telex Japan and TDK.

An EC official said that an enquiry into claims that the 3 1/2 inch discs were being dumped on the EC market at unfairly low prices had not been completed, and duties imposed in April would continue to apply.

Quick calculations: will the speed of light do?

The optical computer, which uses light beams instead of electrical impulses, is on its way

Wires and small metal boxes seem to be everywhere: it looks like the aftermath of an accident between an electronics shop and a truck of spaghetti.

However, this bizarre device, built by scientists at the University of Colorado at Boulder, may be a crucial step towards a key technology of the next century: the optical computer.

Today's computers may seem extremely fast, but in fact most of them solve problems in a very inefficient way. The slowness occurs because they are simply tackling one part of the problem at a time.

A much better way would be to use "parallel processing" — that is, working on all the different bits of the problem at the same time.

Many scientists believe that tomorrow's supercomputers will be parallel processors. They also think that they will be based, not on electrical pulses as with today's machines, but on beams of light.

Such an optical computer would have two main advantages over its electronic rivals. First, pulses of light move quickly: in one second, a light beam can, theoretically, travel around the globe seven times; electrons flowing through electronic devices typically move far more slowly.

Second, light beams can be split up much more easily into parallel streams than a flow of electrons, which makes them a truly more natural choice for a powerful parallel processing computer. The resulting computing power could be used in such demanding problems as



Bright idea: Heuring with an optical computer model

three-dimensional image processing in, for example, virtual reality games. The challenge, however, has been to convert the theoretical advantages into the "mechanics" of a working machine. Now a team under Professors Vince Heuring and Harry Jordan at the University of Colorado's optoelectronic computing systems centre has succeeded in showing that an optical computer can indeed work.

The two have built a machine that stores and manipulates data just like an electronic computer, using rays of light instead.

To keep things relatively simple, the Colorado team

decided to begin with an optical machine that solved problems one at a time, leaving the problems of building a full parallel machine until later when the study was more advanced. "We wanted to establish the principles of computing at the speed of light," says Professor Heuring, who has been working on the project since the mid-1980s. "We wanted to see whether we are able to understand the complexity of the system."

Complex it certainly is: the machine consists of five infrared semiconductor lasers, 25 optical-fibre delay loops and 60 lithium niobate optical switches — costing \$4,000

(about £2,700) each.

The result, Professor Heuring believes, is the single most complex optical system ever built. Just trying to ensure that all the light pulses get to the right places at the right time was a nightmare.

"Everything has to be totally synchronised all the time — it was just one technical hurdle after another," Professor Heuring says. "We are pleased that, even so, we saw all the problems from the word go."

The machine carries out simple calculations by first converting numbers into streams of infra-red light pulses about four metres long. These "bit streams" are then fired into the machine's maze of optical fibres. Then, following instructions from a clock ticking 50 million times a second, the streams are directed towards various optical "switches" for processing.

The result is an optical computer that solves problems using the light beams — although admittedly not very sophisticated problems. At present, the machine can carry out only basic arithmetic, and can hold 128 bytes of information in its memory. Many pocket calculators can do much better.

Yet the first electronic computers 40 years ago were just the same: room-size machines with thousands of wires and little memory. The Colorado team think that its breakthrough puts optical computing where those pioneers were with electronic computers in the 1950s.

The Colorado team has also followed in the great tradition of the computer pioneers, who gave the early machines evocative names such as Ace or Maniac.

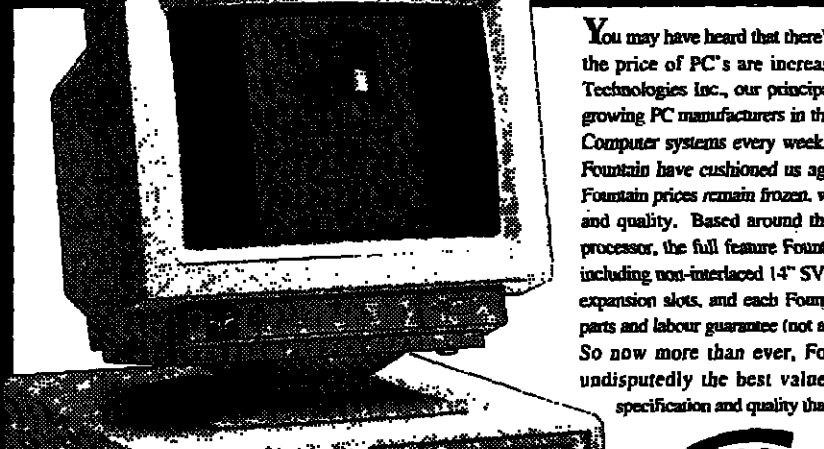
They call their machines a Stored Program Optical Computer, or Spoc, in tribute to Mr Spock from *Star Trek*.

Professors Heuring and Jordan are now working on the first practical optical computer, a palm-sized disc which will run about 400 times faster than Spoc.

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Specialist talent is going begging

Computer users are not getting the advice they need, because headhunters are overlooking the ready supply of skilled support staff. David Guest reports

The spread of personal computers throughout organisations in all sectors of the economy is creating a huge demand for IT support staff — specialists who can help the new classes of computer user make the most of the technology. But there is a risk that those best qualified to provide support to PC users — PC specialists — are slipping through the net of conventional recruitment structures.

The reason is precisely that their careers in IT are not conventional. In particular, many will have no specific experience of mainstream, mainframe data processing. That kind of experience — or its equivalent with minicomputers — used to be what was needed to be considered an IT professional.

"A headhunter knows what a programmer is and what an analyst is, but ask him what user support is and you'll get a blank look," says Simon Love, managing

director of Geneva Services UK, based in Brighton. His company does project work, distributes software tools and supplies permanent or contract personnel. Mr Love believes that a reservoir of talent is untapped because companies that need small-business system skills do not know where to look.

"Partly, it is a question of attitude," he says. "For example, if you say you have Apple experience, some people will think you are a hobbyist. But we were sent 45 CVs in response to an advertisement stipulating expertise in Hypercard, Apple's information handling system, and most turned out not to have full-time work. Some said it was difficult to get on to 'preferred-supplier lists' because they had no mainframe experience."

Preferred-supplier lists in this context are the lists of recruitment agencies and consultancies that companies choose to deal with to simplify the recruitment process.



Wasted skills: Simon Love, above, says ask a headhunter what user support is and you'll get a blank look.

Mr Love believes such lists are doing both parties to the recruitment transaction a disservice. The companies are not finding the right candidates, and the candidates are not finding work.

He says: "The preferred-supplier

list is the root of the problem. We have an overflow of very good PC and Apple networking specialists in the UK and the Benelux countries, and time after time we come up against preferred-supplier lists."

John Rushman, a freelance IT

worker with seven years' experience of both sides of the recruitment process, confirms that these lists can work against employers. "There have been cases in which I have targeted certain companies that I wanted to work for and have

phoned their personnel department to ask which agencies were on the list," he says. "It turned out I was not registered with any, although I was eminently suitable."

Contractors can book with different agencies, but they still have to rely on the agency understanding their aptitudes and matching them with the right jobs. "On the permanent side," Mr Love says, "many companies stick to one or two headhunters who may be advertising in the wrong papers."

The justification for a preferred-supplier list is usually financial or administrative. Employers feel more secure dealing with large recruitment agencies with which they can develop a relationship. This sort of list is also, of course, simpler to administer. However, Mr Love argues, it inhibits innovation.

Simon Pettit, southern sales manager for Systems Resources, says that if there is a problem it is not insurmountable. "Yes, there is a danger of PC specialists being overlooked," he says. "There has been a tendency to take a rather blinkered view of people brought up on PCs. But the development of

technology, particularly local area networking, is changing that from the point of view of their credibility."

The big companies have developed from being mainframe-oriented to more distributed structures. They have large numbers of PCs that are used as intelligent workstations. The PC is now a vital piece of equipment in corporate accounts, and the PC support person is immensely important in the gap between the PC user and the mainframe.

'Britain has an overflow of very good contractors'

Whether or not the right people are proposed for the right jobs, he adds, is a question of screening. Citing a case in which Systems Resources is one of six preferred-suppliers, he notes that the company is permitted to supply only two CVs for each vacancy that it is asked to fill.

"Off our database, we could probably submit ten or more," Mr Pettit says, "so we have to qualify them very carefully, for the sake of the contractor as well as the client." Mr Rushman agrees. "A lot of agencies are so keen to earn their commission that they are trying to shove square pegs into round holes," he says.

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THE ART OF COMMUNICATION...

حکومت الراحل



THEATRE page 28
A magician with limited powers: Alec McCowen as Prospero in The Tempest at Stratford

ARTS

ROCK page 29
Mixmaster Morris, who recycles the contents of existing records to make new 'ambient' music



EDINBURGH GALLERIES: John Russell Taylor finds visual arts squeezed out of the official festival

Best view is through the fringe

Anybody looking at the official programme of the Edinburgh Festival this year could be forgiven for supposing that it had been forsaken by the visual arts. Apparently a single photographic exhibition is all that remains of the festival's one-time exhibition splendour.

Turn to the Fringe programme, however, and there is a very different story. Full-page advertisements announce major festival exhibitions at the National Gallery of Scotland, the Scottish National Portrait Gallery, the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, the Royal Scottish Academy and the Royal Museum of Scotland — none of them renowned heretofore as Fringe venues.

Apparently it all has to do with the present festival director's view that the festival should concentrate on music, drama and dance to the virtual exclusion of everything else. And, no doubt, to do with who is eligible for festival subsidy. Be that as it may, the overall effect is alarming for anyone who recalls how major art exhibitions used to be a central plank of the festival's platform. Fortunately, the national galleries and museums of Scotland are continuing, unsupported, to behave as though this is still the case, and puzzled festival visitors will be happy to reap the benefit.

If they hope for some special excitement from the mere fact of being in Scotland, the best place to start would be with The Line of Tradition at the Royal Scottish Academy. After previous comprehensive exhibitions devoted to painting in Scotland and sculpture in Scotland, the third part of the triptych tackles watercolours, drawings and prints, 1700-1990. While such a wide field can be traversed in a single exhibition only at a brisk canter, the very pace is invigorating.

Scotland has produced some first-rate artists during this period, and most of them, from Allan Ramsay to Stephen Conroy, have drawn and/or made prints. An important interest here, as in "Scotland's Pictures" and "Virtue and Vision", is to see whether, above and beyond the quality of individual works, anything which can be recognised as a Scottish tradition emerges. Such a thing probably does exist, but it is far easier to sense than to define. It does not seem to have much to do with traditional Scottish dourness. On the contrary, from Ramsay to Wilkie to Orchardson there is a special grace and lightness of touch reminiscent more of the auld alliance than of that newer coupling with the southern part of the island.

Then there is a taste for visions, mystical or melodramatic, which unite David Scott with John Duncan and maybe John Bellamy.

Celtic or not, at least it is unlike anything English.

Some individual works stand out, especially if not too familiar. There is William Hackstoun's *House on the Edge of a Hill* (1890). That marvellous title gives a fair idea of what is in the picture, but not of its intricate rhythmic construction, which makes the scene appear to expand, contract and writhe beneath the spectator's astonished gaze.

If the pleasures of this show are largely unexpected, those of Holbein and the Court of Henry VIII at the National Gallery of Scotland should surely have paled with over-familiarity. But the familiarity is largely in reproduction, and the 28 portrait drawings, alongside four miniatures, borrowed from the Royal Library at Windsor, seen in the original, take the breath away. They excel in delicacy, precision, strength and immediacy. Every line tells, and more about the character of the sitters than

most of them can possibly have bargained for.

There is the knowing, world-weary Archbishop William Warham, who has seen it all before; the rather effete Earl of Surrey, with his watery gaze; the slightly disapproving, mean-mouthed drawing of Jane Seymour and the miniature most likely of Catherine Howard, whose ambiguous gaze perhaps suggests the hold she had over Henry's affections. But in every image, whether of the very famous or of the totally unknown, the people are so vividly there that one constantly needs reminding it is the 450th anniversary of Holbein's death that the exhibition celebrates.

The National Gallery of Modern Art boldly ranges outside Britain with a comprehensive display of Russian Painting of the Avant Garde. Since pre-revolution, the museums and galleries of Russia have been amazingly keen to make major loans to the west of works that, until a very few years ago, were not even officially admitted to exist. This show, originally put together by the Musée des Beaux Arts de Nantes, makes full use of this kind of "openness", digging amazing things out of far-flung Russian public collections as well as, here and there, drawing on collections in the west.

The novelty of the show, for Britain at least, is that it puts the famous revolutionary artists such as Malevich, Rodchenko, Tatlin and Lissitzky into context. The extraordinary flowering of modern art in Russia, from 1900 on, actually ran rapidly through three or four distinct generations. First we have Kandinsky and Chagall and others slightly less famous, such as Larionov and Goncharova, who drew on folk art. Then we have

the Russian equivalents of the Fauves and Die Brücke, painters such as Lentulov and Morgunov whose brilliant colours have only recently been rediscovered. After that come the mystical abstractionists such as Klyun — and here we can see how Malevich was more interested in the visionary than the constructive — and such weird individualists as Filonov, going off alone in their own distinct directions. It is a show which explodes with dynamism and excitement.

By comparison, the solitary "official" festival exhibition is a much more sober affair. The *Walking Dream*, at the City Arts Centre, does indeed have its own excitement. But they are of a much more rarefied and specialised order. This tribute to photography's first century, from the collection of the Gilman Paper Company, requires a full appreciation of the rarity of the examples chosen, their uniformity in fine condition, and the special advantages of seeing original prints rather than modern reprints, however carefully they are



The Harvest Gatherer, a 1912 oil by Kazimir Malevich from "Russian Painting of the Avant Garde". On loan from Art Gallery B.M. Koustodiev, Astrakhan

derived from the negatives. For those ready for an object lesson in photographic history there are enormous benefits. Even for the casual visitor, there are images which stand out, such as Heinrich Kühn's magical early colour pictures, as exquisite and evocative as Symbolist paintings; and Onésime Agudo's bizarre *Woman Seen From The Back* (circa 1862).

● *The Line of Tradition*, Royal Scottish Academy, The Mound, until September 12. ● *Holbein and the Court of Henry VIII*, National Gallery of Scotland, The Mound, until September 26. Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 11am-6pm (from September 5, Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm). Recorded information 031-332 2266.

● *Russian Painting of the Avant Garde*, Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, Belford Road, until September 5. Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 11am-5pm. Admission £3, concessions £1.50.

● *The Walking Dream*, City Arts Centre, Market Street (031-558 1018). Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2-5pm, until October 17. Admission £3, concessions £1.

One man's bands

Stephen Pettitt samples the delights of the Schleswig-Holstein Music Festival

In Hamburg, Justus Franz is musical king. Posters vividly proclaim that Justus Franz conducts this, Justus Franz plays that. The pianist is good at self-promotion in his home city, no doubt about that. But he is also good at promoting and organising the Schleswig-Holstein Festival, a remarkable event, or rather 140 or so diverse events, of which he is artistic director.

The festival is spread wide, chronologically and geographically. It runs from June to the end of August, and all over the strip of land in the north of Germany bordered by Denmark, the North Sea and the Baltic. The area is rural; its economy one of the poorest in western Germany. The quantity and quality of musical riches the region sees during the festival, however, are unrivalled even by our own Proms. From the Tallis Scholars to the Kronos Quartet, from the Warsaw Sinfonia to the Philharmonia, from Jessye Norman to Shura Cherkassky, they are all here this year, and a good many of them happen to be British.

The late Leonard Bernstein was a fervent supporter. It was he who instigated the idea of a Schleswig-Holstein Music Festival Orchestra, composed of young musicians from all over the world. The orchestra tours widely, as Proms audiences in Britain will know, and is flourishing at home. That was made abundantly clear from the concert it gave with Sir Georg Solti in the Hamburg Musikhalle.

The mixture of keen, expert young players and a god-like conductor is a potent one — and Solti plays the part of the latter well. He also amply fulfilled the role of animator at this so-called promenade concert. Tickets for stalls seats could be had for the usual arm and leg (my ticket, not exactly the best seat in the house, was marked 90 DM), while the young and impetuous were dispatched to the gods. Solti gave

witty spoken introductions to Stravinsky's *Petrushka* and Brahms's Fourth Symphony, which received in the one case a suitably glittering performance and in the other a tough, concentrated but rhythmically alive one.

Hamburg is the big town, but it can hardly claim to be the base of the festival. Actually, the bulk of the concerts happen in small places. One particular innovation are the Musical Parties, veritable musical orgies held at countryside locations and occupying entire weekends, starting on Friday evenings.

Barns and historical houses are the headquarters for these events. I went to one of the seven scheduled for this year at Brinkendorf, and while for this spillover London critic the end-to-end sequence of sometimes not very palatable music-making was all too much, it was easy to appreciate that for a culture-starved local population the appeal was immense. You could have heard a pin drop when the Arditi Quartet gave Britten's Third Quartet, not the most popular of that composer's works. Obviously the idea works.

The previous evening the Arditi had given a recital in another barn, in the grounds of the magnificent house at Wotersen, owned by a congenial local count. The programme included two Bartók Quartets — the terse No 3 and the more spacious and lyrical No 1 — tracing the world premiere of Peter Eötvös's *Korrespondenzen* — *Scenes for String Quartet*.

Based on the letters that flew between Mozart and his father at the time of the death of Mozart's mother, this eloquent and clever work uses the rhythms of speech, exploiting the gap between what is meant by the written word and what is read into it. The Arditi gave a beautifully poised reading, realising to a marvellous degree the subtleties of articulation and colour this score demands.



Sir John Godsalve (detail), from "Holbein and the Court of Henry VIII". Collection of H.M. the Queen, Windsor Castle

OTHER EDINBURGH

● **THE POWER OF THE MASK:** Or "Spider-Man And Snake Demon". The history and uses of the mask, all over the world, in magic, ritual, theatre and carnival, to disguise or liberate. The show suggests lines of thought about its hold on the imagination. Royal Museum of Scotland, Chambers Street, (031-225 7534) Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun noon-5pm, until October 31. Admission £2.50, Concessions £1

● **NO MORE HEROES ANY MORE:** The art collection of the Imperial War Museum, as well as covering war art of two world wars, continues to document artists' involvement in more recent conflicts. Included in this show of new acquisitions are special commissions, like John Keane's coverage of the Gulf war, and other pieces related to artists' responses to memories of earlier wars, visual mementoes or the idea of war. The Royal Scottish Academy, The Mound, (031-225 6671) Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm. During Festival Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 11am-6pm, until September 12.

● **FIVE RED HERRINGS:** The fishing village of Kirkcubright was quite an artists' colony during the Twenties. Some of them, more or less disguised, occur in Dorothy L. Sayers's novel *The Five Red Herrings*. Hence the title of this show, which revives a number of less remembered artists and gives a nod to Sayers's centenary. Forrest McKay, 38 Howe Street (031-225 2589) Mon-Fri 10am-6pm, Sat 10am-1pm, until September 4.

● **SCOTLAND FIRST PORTRAYED:** John Slezer is supposed to have been the first to make a systematic pictorial survey of Scotland, published in his *Theatrum Scotiae* of 1693. Chief engineer with the army in Scotland, his official duties took him all over the country. The show has all the original engravings plus preliminary drawings, plates and reworkings. National Library of Scotland, George IV Bridge (031-226 4531) Mon-Fri 10am-5pm (Festival 10am-8.30pm) Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm, until October 30.

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THEATRE SOURCE NOTTINGHAM

Millions invested in new players will not guarantee promotion from Endsleigh Insurance League

Big spenders gamble on joining the big league

BY PETER BALL



FIRST it was Canon, then Today, Barclays and now Endsleigh Insurance. The Football League embraces its fourth sponsorship this season and replacing a bank with an insurance company is a fitting move in view of some of the more gloomy forecasts for life outside the FA Carling Premiership.

Some view life so starkly that several of the bigger clubs, led by Nottingham Forest, Wolverhampton Wanderers and Sunderland, have decided that the only way to ensure survival is to get into the Premiership post-haste and have responded, in the words of Sir Jack Hayward, president of Wolverhampton, by "throwing money at the problem".

But will it work? Football's past is littered with sad tales of big spenders and, even in the Nineties, money does not guarantee success. If these clubs fail, there are likely to be some pointed questions for Frank Clark, Graham Turner and Terry Butcher, their respective managers, and there is already a warning of what could happen in the form of Derby County, who were expected to sweep to promotion last year after equally lavish expenditure and failed to make any show at all.

Arthur Cox, the Derby manager, knows it is do-or-die this time and Derby are still active in the market place, with moves for David Rocastle, of Leeds United, or John Harkes, of Sheffield Wednesday, or both, reportedly in the pipeline. If the East Midlands is to have a team in the frame, with a year's experience under their belts, Derby may be a better bet than Forest.

Expectations will be espe-

cially high at the City Ground, where the cash for Roy Keane and Nigel Clough was not given time to burn a hole in Clark's pocket.

Yet getting back up for a relegated team first time around is never easy and it may prove beyond a side whose attractive but bloodless football could not hide glaring weaknesses at the front and back last season.

The impressive convert to centre half, Colin Cooper, from Millwall, will help the defence as surely will the return and commitment of Stuart Pearce but whether the vastly expensive Stan Collymore, who cost £2.5 million, will provide the goals remains the big question.

Wolverhampton have their own equivalent of Jack Walker, Blackburn Rovers' free-spending financier, in Sir Jack Hayward, who has put £20 million into the club, £3 million of it on buying David Kelly, Geoff Thomas and Kevin Keen.

However, the most important factor for them may be ensuring that Steve Bull, their former England forward, stays healthy.

In the north-east, Sunderland have eclipsed Newcastle United in the transfer market this summer. Whether that will turn them from relegation to promotion candidates was always going to be a gamble and the involvement of Phil Gray, Derek Ferguson, Alec Chamberlain and Ian Rodger in a car crash this week does not bode well.

The real problem for the big spenders, though, are the genuine odds for promotion for at least half a dozen other teams. Portsmouth and Leicester City could make up for their disappointments last year, when they missed out in the play-offs, and Millwall, with their excellent new stadium, impressed many people last season. Not only is the race for the two automatic promotion slots heavily over-subscribed but the jockeying for play-off places could easily involve half the division.



Sharpshooters: Kelly, left, and Collymore will be expected to justify their transfer fees by leading Wolverhampton Wanderers and Nottingham Forest to promotion

Odds favour Port Vale

BY PETER BALL

THE bookmakers see it as an open or shut case. Port Vale, who amassed 89 points last season and still lost out, are 4-1 favourites. The nearest runners after that are Huddersfield Town and newly promoted Cardiff City, who are quoted at 12-1, with the other two defeated play-off teams, Stockport County and Swansea City, and two from mid-table last season, Burnley and Brentford, all ranked as joint-third favourites at 14-1.

These figures speak for general uncertainty, suggesting it could be anyone's division. Nevertheless, John Rodgers' team deserve their favourite's position. Vale were regarded as the better footballing side in the Forties last season, even though Stoke City won the championship, and they have strengthened their squad with the Coventry full back, Peter Billing, and Allen Tankard, from Wigan Athletic. This time, they should make sure.

Yet beyond Vale, even the bookmakers are guessing. Under Neil Warnock, Huddersfield are guaranteed to be well organised and they have added Steve Francis, from Reading, as well as two players from Warnock's old club, Notts County, but whether they will turn a squad that came fifteenth last season into

promotion candidates is debatable. Cardiff have lost Gavin Ward and Paul Ramsey and their chairman, Rick Wright, is still trying to sell the club. Amid that uncertainty, expecting them to make an impact seems unlikely. Burnley, as bettors one of the division's biggest clubs, have spent a lot of money. They have always been true to their footballing traditions but how practicable that is at this level is open to question and they may struggle to live up to expectations.

Danny Bergara's ability to fracture English has not stopped him from building almost a caricature of a classic English team at Stockport and, as long as the players' commitment has not been dented by their play-off disappointment last season, their sheer power should make them serious contenders. However, a couple of seasons at longer odds are worth a flutter. Frank Stapleton has been doing a quietly impressive job at Bradford City and, at 20-1, they look an interesting bet while relegated Bristol Rovers may also be worth a flutter at 20-1. John Ward made an early impression when he was appointed by Rovers in March, just too late to save them.



Wycombe can rise again

BY KIRTH PIKE

WYCOMBE Wanderers make their debut in the Endsleigh Insurance League tomorrow saddled with both the burden of favouritism and the knowledge that those who first beat the path from non-league football soon found their progress through the promised land threatened by a financial minefield.

Scarborough, Barnet and, fatally, Maidstone United were to discover that winning the GM Vauxhall Conference may generate delirium but not necessarily the money required to run a professional football club. Not before time, the Football League has imposed much stricter criteria on clubs seeking admittance.

However, if any club was guaranteed a warm reception at Lytham St Annes, it was Wycombe, whose books passed inspection with flying colours and whose ground, a compact new stadium on the town's fringes, will put most of their rivals to shame. Have they got a team to match? The bookmakers, who have made them 9-2 favourites to win the third division, certainly think so.

Martin O'Neill, the manager, appears to share their conviction, not only preferring to see the job through with Wycombe by turning down the chance to succeed Brian Clough at

Nottingham Forest but also by keeping faith with the team that won the Conference by a proverbial mile and landed the FA Trophy at Wembley. Only Duncan Horton, the former Barnet captain, has been recruited.

In terms of both financial conservatism and league experience, O'Neill is in good company. Ten third division clubs are managed by people who were appointed within the last 12 months and, between them, the 22 managers have spent around £400,000 in close-season signings — enough to buy Roy Keane's left kneecap but, at this level, sufficient to make wholesale changes to personnel.

The exception, certainly in terms of longevity, is Dario Gradi, about to embark on his tenth full season in charge of Crewe Alexandra. Clough's departure means that only Joe Royle, who has been with Oldham Athletic for 11 years, has served his league club longer.

Beaten by penalties in the play-off final last season, Crewe can again be expected to work their way into promotion contention while, at the same time, enhancing their audiences and attracting numerous Premiership scouts to Gresty Road.



Regis: bargain buy

FIRST DIVISION			SECOND DIVISION			THIRD DIVISION		
<p>Barnsley Manager: V. Anderson (appointed June 1993) Transfers: In: Danny Wilson (Sheffield Wednesday), Glen Shinnie (Heart of Midlothian), Out: None Championship odds: 40-1 (William Hill)</p> <p>Birmingham City Manager: Terry Cooper (August 1991) Transfers: In: Kevin Miller (Exeter City), Out: None Championship odds: 40-1 (William Hill)</p> <p>Bolton Wanderers Manager: Bruce Riech (May 1992) Transfers: In: Owen Coyle (Aston Villa), Out: None Championship odds: 25-1</p> <p>Bristol City Manager: Russell Osman (March 1993) Transfers: In: Lam Robinson (Bury), Out: None Championship odds: 25-1</p> <p>Cardiff City Manager: Alan Smith (June 1993) Transfers: In: Alan Smith (Cardiff City), Out: None Championship odds: 12-1</p> <p>Charlton Athletic Manager: Alan Curbishley and Steve Girdle (June 1993) Transfers: In: Alan Curbishley (Charlton Athletic), Out: None Championship odds: 33-1</p> <p>Crewe Alexandra Manager: Alan Curbishley (June 1993) Transfers: In: Alan Curbishley (Charlton Athletic), Out: None Championship odds: 33-1</p> <p>Derby County Manager: Arthur Cox (May 1994) Transfers: In: Gary Charles (Nottingham Forest), Out: None Championship odds: 33-1</p> <p>Exeter City Manager: Alan Curbishley (June 1993) Transfers: In: Alan Curbishley (Charlton Athletic), Out: None Championship odds: 33-1</p> <p>Grimsby Town Manager: Alan Curbishley (June 1993) Transfers: In: Alan Curbishley (Charlton Athletic), Out: None Championship odds: 33-1</p> <p>Leeds United Manager: David Higgs (June 1993) Transfers: In: David Higgs (Leeds United), Out: None Championship odds: 33-1</p> <p>Leicester City Manager: Peter Taylor (June 1993) Transfers: In: Peter Taylor (Leicester City), Out: None Championship odds: 33-1</p> <p>Lincoln City Manager: Alan Curbishley (June 1993) Transfers: In: Alan Curbishley (Charlton Athletic), Out: None Championship odds: 33-1</p> <p>Luton Town Manager: David Higgs (June 1993) Transfers: In: David Higgs (Leeds United), Out: None Championship odds: 33-1</p> <p>Millwall 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HONDA
One of
life's best feelings.

England manager defiant in face of vilification and vandalism

Grim Fletcher rides out storm



Alan Lee talks to the embattled
England team manager after a
difficult first year in charge

IT IS a year since Keith Fletcher took over as manager of the England cricket team with goodwill from all men. Now, as the one survivor of the triumvirate that has presided over a saga of relentless failure, his life has changed in a way that only success, or resignation, can redress.

Barely a soul demurred when Fletcher was appointed. Micky Stewart seemed to be banished with no more than a "good riddance" as a new dawn was acclaimed, with the wise and affable little man about to achieve for England what, against similar odds, he had for Essex.

But it has not gone according to the grand plan. Fletcher's record as a Test match manager reads: played nine, drawn one, lost eight. Would he have taken the job with prior warning of such calamities? Yesterday he searched for the right words. "I never expected it would be anything like this," he said. And he does not just mean in terms of results.

Inside a fortnight, Fletcher has seen his long-time friend, Graham Gooch, resign the captaincy and Ted Dexter stand down as chairman of the England committee. He is isolated and grimly aware of the fact.

"I know full well what to

expect," he said. "There are people always ready to snipe at times like this. They'll be thinking they have got rid of two and they've got one to go. I accept that this is going to happen — but they won't get rid of me, I can assure you, because I am far tougher than any of them."

Fighting words, these, but they were not spoken glibly. Fletcher has been knocked off a rarefied perch once before and has never forgotten it. When Peter May sacked him from the England captaincy in 1982, he was a bitter man. "For weeks, I woke up every morning with a sense of loss," he recalled, "and I am not naturally an emotional person."

More knowing and resolute for the experience, he learned to take nothing on trust, earned respect and admiration at Essex and was so obviously the natural choice to manage England that nobody else was seriously proposed.

For a man so accustomed to success, recent events have been harrowing. So, too, has the general reaction to them. In Fletcher's case, it has ranged between vilification and vandalism. He has been called "stupid", "an idiot" and other offensive words in print and very much worse when he has been in earshot of the terraces at certain grounds. He has had the headlights of his car kicked in. And he has received the inevitable mail-bag of anonymous, poisonous trash.

His crime, in the eyes of the perpetrators, has been to pick the wrong players and pursue the wrong strategies. Leaving

aside the question of whether this can possibly justify such a response, is Fletcher willing to admit to errors?

"I regret aspects of the team we took to India last winter," he said. "We should have picked a side based solely on the Test matches instead of being distracted by the number of one-day internationals. I don't think I'll make that mistake again."

He declined to be specific, but it is worth recording my understanding that Fletcher wanted David Gower in the team, but was outvoted. He is, after all, only one of six with a vote on touring parties. That system remains in place for the selection next month of the side to go to the Caribbean, though who will chair the meeting is open to doubt.

Was Fletcher surprised by Dexter's departure earlier this week? He answers first with a yes, then a no. "I've got to be honest. I am not surprised he went, but I thought he would hang on to the end of the series. There was an awful lot of pressure. I think he had just had enough."

"Things like this can affect your whole family. I'm lucky. My wife, Sue, is very strong and she can take it. But it is now the way of things in cricket that if the England team is doing badly, there

have to be heads put on the block and people don't mind how it is done."

"The fact is that it would not have made the slightest difference this summer, whoever had been in charge. We have not got the experience and quality of players that the Australians have. On top of that, we have performed 20 per cent below par and Australia, to their great credit, 20 per cent above par. There's the difference."

Fletcher has toured the country assiduously all summer. Yesterday he was at Leicester, today Trent Bridge, tomorrow Southampton and so it goes on. He loves the game with a passion and enjoys his involvement with the players, but he expresses grave reservations about what he has seen.

"The standard of county cricket is poor. There was more quality around when I played. I also think that the level of ambition has suffered. You don't have to play for England to earn a reasonable living now and I'm not sure that some players want it enough."

"I have tried to identify the tough ones, who will go out and die for the side. That is the type I will persevere with, though only time will tell if they can mature into proper Test cricketers. At the moment, we only have three or four of those in the side. The others are just learning."

Fletcher was impressed with his new captain, Michael Atherton, despite another deflating defeat at Edgbaston. "It was not remotely his fault. He did brilliantly with the team,



Looking ahead: Fletcher at Grace Road yesterday, when he confirmed his determination to stay in charge

on and off the field, he batted well and he was good with the press. I couldn't give him higher praise. What we need now is for the great British public to get behind Atherton, and myself, and to be patient.

The nucleus of our future played at Edgbaston and we will work with those players over the next four years to make a good Test side."

Fletcher is thinking that far ahead, the extent of his contract. He is not contemplating the easy way out and nor is he offering any of the readily available excuses about pitches, umpiring, injuries and other selectorial bolshoes. "I will protect the players when appropriate, but I won't defend them if they play badly. They know that."

This turbulent year has aged Fletcher, who is now 49 and suddenly grey. He keeps sane by escaping occasionally with his beloved fishing rod, but the problems never really recede. "I have sleepless nights and I wake up sometimes and sit bolt upright,

fretting over why somebody played a stupid shot, why we missed a chance to take control of a game."

"There are some things about the job that cannot be enjoyed, like walking around a ground and getting stuck from the sort of people who believe someone else could march in and wave a magic wand. There are things which hurt me, but mostly, if I see or hear something very nasty, I try to make a joke of it."

"Anyone can be wise after the event, but any sensible person in cricket would have made only one or two changes to the teams we have picked this summer. With a clear conscience, I can say I have given everything to try and improve things and I am not going to give up now. The pressure will be there until we start winning, but I have got four years left and I intend to see them through."

England Under-19 Test, page 34
Scoreboards, page 34

Smith chosen to lead
England tour party

MIKE Smith, who is the favourite to succeed Ted Dexter as chairman of the England committee, is to have an early insight into what may be in store for him (Alan Lee writes).

Smith, 60, the chairman of Warwickshire, was announced yesterday as tour manager for England's winter trip to the West Indies, on which he will work alongside the team manager, Keith Fletcher.

Nothing should be read into the appointment. Smith remains an available and plausible contender for the chairman's position, but he was approached three weeks ago to take on the tour duties from the manager of the past two winters, Bob Bennett. The responsibilities of the tour manager are something between an administrator, diplomat and wet nurse and Smith's time will be occupied as much with the trivia of checking transport and practice facilities as with any matters of international importance.

Smith asked for time to consider the offer and accepted during the Edgbaston Test match. It is possible that he will be named as the new chairman after next Tuesday's full meeting of the Test and County Cricket Board, though a deferment is more likely, but if he is to take the top job, the Caribbean experience, which will involve five Tests and five one-day internationals, will be invaluable.

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British medal
hopes hit as
injury forces
Grindley out

FROM DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT
IN STUTTGART

BRITAIN yesterday suffered the most severe blow yet to its team for the world championships, which begin here tomorrow, when David Grindley was forced to withdraw from the 400 metres because of injury. Grindley, the European Cup champion and national record-holder, was removed against his wishes by the team management.

Grindley had wanted to wait until the first round tomorrow before making a decision, but aged only 20 and one of the youngest team members, he yielded to older and wiser heads. "David did not want to withdraw, but it was in his best interests," Frank Dick, Britain's director of coaching, said. "If he had tried to run, he could have ended his career."

Grindley has a minor left calf strain and caution now is perceived as wise investment for later. "I wanted to leave it until the last minute, but I understand I have a long future and I should not risk it," Grindley said. "Maybe the Americans will be pleased."

Perhaps they will. His form this season had made him the speck in their eye, blurring their vision of a medals sweep. There is not a leading 400 metres runner, other than the world title favourite, Michael Johnson, whom Grindley has not beaten this season.

He put Butch Reynolds, the world record-holder, and Quincy Watts, the Olympic champion, on the ropes last week by defeating them in Zurich. It will be no surprise if Johnson, Reynolds and Watts dominate the final for the United States next Tuesday.

The irony is that, by then,

Grindley may be recovered. "If we had four, five, or six days, we could probably clear it up, but not in three," Chris Butler, Grindley's coach, said. "It is a minor muscle discomfort."

So much so, that there is optimism he will be ready for the 4x400 metres relay, beginning next Saturday. "There is every possibility that David will be running back up to speed by the relay," Butler added. But, with Roger Black, Derek Redmond and Mark Richardson out too, Britain's chances of a medal, let alone a repeat of the gold they won at the last world championships, in 1991, are slim.

No time has been wasted in resetting Grindley's sights. "The object now will be to break the European record at Crystal Palace in the grand prix final on September 10," Butler said.

After finishing sixth in the Olympics last year, while still European junior champion, Grindley improved this summer, winning at the European Cup and then giving Johnson and Reynolds a race in Oslo, where he beat Samson Kitur, the Olympic bronze medal winner, from Kenya.

For the first time, the Americans felt Grindley tap on their shoulder. "He's 20! Oh man," Reynolds said. "His potential is unlimited." Johnson ventured. Nine days ago, in Zurich, he beat Reynolds and Watts, but that was where his calf trouble started.

His training was tapered, but the injury flared up on Tuesday. He travelled to Germany with the team the next day, but, after being assessed by Malcolm Brown, Britain's team doctor, the decision to withdraw was taken.

Grindley is the seventh member of Britain's team of 90 to give way to injury. The others are Eamonn Martin, Roger Black, Mark Richardson, David Lewis, Phyllis Smith and Liz McColgan.

Meanwhile, Steve Backley, third in the Olympic javelin last year, is hanging on by a thread. He admitted yesterday that his adductor injury was troubling him to the extent that he would be looking for a medal on a handful of throws, missing rounds if he could.



Grindley: took advice

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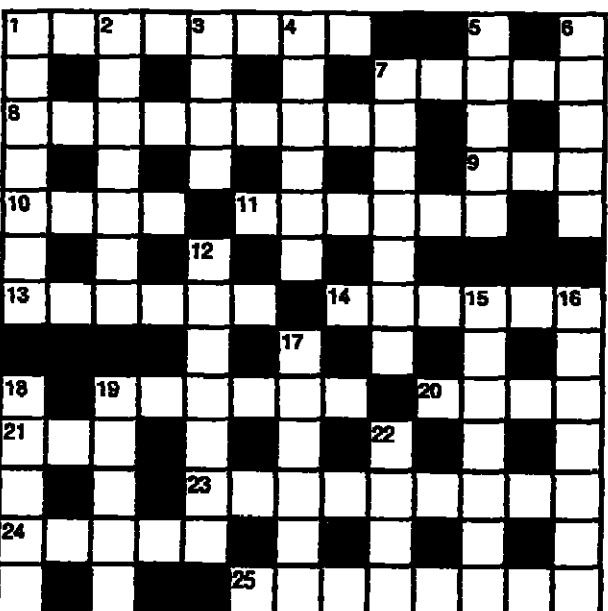
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Name (please print clearly) _____
Address _____
Postcode _____

Daytime Tel: _____ Home Tel: _____
NO SALES PERSON WILL VISIT

Answers on page 30

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 3172



ACROSS

- 1 Pop tour (4,4)
- 7 Counterfeit (5)
- 8 Private chat (4,1,4)
- 9 Moist (3)
- 10 Northern Scandinavian (4)
- 11 Open land (6)
- 13 Timber fungus decay (3,3)
- 14 Puzzle (6)
- 19 Take temporarily (6)
- 20 Hit hard (4)
- 21 Rocky hill (3)
- 23 Caesar's dying words (2,2,5)
- 24 Aircraft finder (5)
- 25 Staunch Conservative (4,4)

SOLUTIONS TO NO 3172

- ACROSS: 7 Jazz 8 All in one 9 Horror 10 Bovine 11 Miss 12 Gasoline 15 Gamble 17 Text 18 Shamed 21 Strobe 22 Appeared 23 Fuss
- DOWN: 1 Majolica 2 Azores 3 Madrigal 4 Slab 5 Snivel 6 Anon 13 Set aside 14 Next best 16 Number 17 Thrift 19 Hype 20 Dash

DOWN

- 1 Disconcerted (7)
- 2 Post mortem (7)
- 3 Wander idly (4)
- 4 Spotted wild feline (6)
- 5 Small crustacean (5)
- 6 Trifling (5)
- 7 Unrest (7)
- 12 Cache builder (7)
- 15 Occurring in stages (7)
- 16 Accomplish (7)
- 17 Luggage carrier (6)
- 18 Begin (5)
- 19 Marrying woman (5)
- 22 Fit (4)

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

It has been said that chess mirrors warfare and that the blockading techniques of Aron Nimzowitsch reflected the trench battles of world war one. This position is from the game Nimzowitsch - Leolais, Riga circa 1913. Black is thoroughly blocked, how does White deliver checkmate?

To book tickets for the Times Championship between Garry Kasparov and Nigel Short ring First Call on 071 497 9977.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

THRAWARD
a. A castle's outer ward
b. A swanherd
c. Perverse and thrawn

URAUGHT
a. A petty chief
b. Undone
c. Pertaining to urates

FENAGE
a. As old as the fens
b. Feudal service
c. A hay crop

GLEDE
a. A crow-bar
b. A sturdy beggar
c. To squint

Answers on page 30